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**LETTERS**  
**OF**  
**RACHEL LADY RUSSELL.**



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From an old miniature.

Engraved by W. C. Gillier.

*William Lord Russell.*

Longman & Co  
1853.





MEMOIR  
OF  
KATHLEEN  
LADY RUSSELL.  
VOL. II.



*From an old picture.*

*E. Radcliffe, Sc.*

*Woburn Abbey*

Longman & Co.  
1853.



3

# LETTERS

OF

## RACHEL LADY RUSSELL.

—“that sweet Saint who sate by RUSSELL's side  
Under the Judgment-seat.”—ROBERTS.

TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

LONDON  
LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN AND LONGMANS.  
1853.



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# CONTENTS

OF

## THE SECOND VOLUME.

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The letters having this prefix (\*) appear here for the first time. The sources from which they have been derived are indicated in the notes.

	PAGE
↳ Lady Russell to Lord Halifax . . . . .	1
Bishop of Salisbury (Burnet) to Lady Russell . . . . .	2
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	6
↳ Lord Halifax to Lady Russell . . . . .	8
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	10
Dr. Tillotson to Lady Russell . . . . .	13
Lady Russell to Dr. Tillotson . . . . .	20
Bishop of Salisbury to Lady Russell . . . . .	23
Dr. Tillotson to Lady Russell . . . . .	26
Lady Montagu to Lady Russell . . . . .	29
↳ Lady Russell to Lady Sunderland . . . . .	30
Lady Edward Russell to Lady Russell . . . . .	31
Lady Frances Russell to Lady Margaret Russell . . . . .	40
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	43
Dr. Tillotson to Lady Russell . . . . .	45
Lady Russell to Dr. Tillotson . . . . .	48
Dr. Tillotson to Lady Russell . . . . .	51
Lady Russell to Lady Ranelagh . . . . .	57
Lady Russell to Lord Devonshire . . . . .	59

	PAGE
Lady Russell to Madame Rouvigny . . . . .	60
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	61
Lady Russell to the Bishop of Salisbury . . . . .	62
Lady Russell to Lord Cavendish . . . . .	65
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	66
Archbishop Tillotson to Lady Russell . . . . .	69
> * Lady Russell to her Children . . . . .	72
Lady Russell to Archbishop Tillotson . . . . .	85
Lady Russell to Queen Mary . . . . .	87
Queen Mary to Lady Russell . . . . .	88
Lady Russell to Lady Alington . . . . .	90
Lady Russell to Mr. Owen . . . . .	91
Lady Russell to Queen Mary . . . . .	94
Lady Russell to Lady Darby . . . . .	95
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	96
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	99
Lady Russell to Lady Cavendish . . . . .	101
Lady Russell to the Duke of Rutland . . . . .	102
Lady Russell to the Duke of Rutland . . . . .	104
Lady Russell to the Duke of Rutland . . . . .	105
Queen Mary to Lady Russell . . . . .	108
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	109
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	111
Sir James Forbes to Lady Russell . . . . .	113
Archbishop Tillotson to Lady Russell . . . . .	115
Lady Russell to Dr. Fitzwilliam . . . . .	116
Archbishop Tillotson to Lady Russell . . . . .	118
Lady Russell to Lady Roos . . . . .	120
Lady Russell to Mrs. Howland . . . . .	123
* Lady Russell to Lady Roos . . . . .	125
* Lady Russell to Lady Roos . . . . .	127
* Sir James Forbes to Lady Russell . . . . .	129
Bishop of Salisbury to Lady Russell . . . . .	131
Lady Russell to Sir Robert Worsley . . . . .	132
Lady Russell to Rev. J. Thornton . . . . .	134
* Lady Russell to the Marchioness of Hartington . . . . .	137
Lady Russell to Rev. J. Thornton . . . . .	139

## CONTENTS.

vii

	PAGE
* Lady Russell to Lady Roos . . . . .	141
Lady Russell to Mr. Thornton . . . . .	144
Lady Russell to Mr. Thornton . . . . .	145
* Lady Russell to Lady Roos . . . . .	147
* Duke of Bedford to Lady Russell . . . . .	149
Lady Russell to Mr. Thornton . . . . .	150
Lady Letitia Russell to Mr. Thornton . . . . .	152
* Lady Russell to Lady Roos . . . . .	154
Lady Russell to Mr. Thornton . . . . .	155
* Lady Russell to Lady Roos . . . . .	158
Lady Russell to Mr. Thornton . . . . .	159
* Lady Russell to the Duke of Bedford . . . . .	161
* Lady Russell to Lady Roos . . . . .	165
* Lady Russell to King William . . . . .	167
* Lady Russell to Lady Granby (Lady Roos) . . . . .	168
Lady Russell to King William . . . . .	170
* Lady Russell to Lady Granby . . . . .	171
* Lady Russell to her Son . . . . .	173
* Lady Russell to Lady Roos . . . . .	179
* Lord Orford to Lady Russell . . . . .	182
* Lady Russell to the Duchess of Devonshire . . . . .	185
* Lady Russell to the Bishop of Exeter . . . . .	187
* Bishop of Salisbury to Lady Russell . . . . .	190
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	192
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	194
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	196
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	200
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	201
Lady Russell to Mr. Norton . . . . .	204
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	205
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	207
* Lady Russell to the Duchess of Devonshire . . . . .	208
* Lord Granby to Lady Russell . . . . .	210
Hough (Bishop of Worcester) to Lady Russell . . . . .	212
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	215
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	216
Lady Russell to the Earl of Galway . . . . .	217

	PAGE
Lady Russell (an unfinished paper) . . .	. 219
<hr/>	
Description of the engravings . . .	. 225
Fac-simile of Lady Russell's handwriting . . .	to face 72
Ground plan of Bedford House . . .	" 225

LETTERS  
OF  
RACHEL LADY RUSSELL.

---

LADY RUSSELL TO LORD HALIFAX.

MY LORD,

For my part, I think the man a very indifferent 1689.  
reasoner, that to do well, he must take with indifference whatever happens to him. It is very fine to say, Why should we complain that is taken back which was but lent us, and lent us but for a time, we know; and so on. They are the receipts of philosophers I have no reverence for, as I have not for anything which is unnatural. It is insincere. And I dare say they did dissemble, and felt what they would not own. I know I cannot dispute with Almighty power; but yet if my delight is gone, I must needs be sorry it is taken away, according to the measure it made me glad.

The Christian religion only, believe me, my Lord, has a power to make the spirit easy under great calamity; nothing less than the hope of being again

1689. made happy can satisfy the mind: I am sure I owe more to it than I could have done to the world, if all the glories of it had been offered me, or to be disposed of by me. And I do sincerely desire your Lordship may experience the truth of my opinion. You know better than most, from the share you have had of the one, what they do afford; and I hope you will prove what tranquillity the other gives. If I had a better wish to make, your Lordship's constant expressions of esteem for me, and willingness, as I hope, to have had me less miserable than I am, if you had found your power equal to your will, engages me to make it; and that alone would have bound me, though my own unworthiness and ill fortune had let you have forgot me for ever after my sad lot. But since you would not do so, it must deserve a particular acknowledgment for ever, from

Your Lordship's.

July, 1689.

---

BISHOP OF SALISBURY TO LADY RUSSELL.

IF it were for no other cause but to have peace at home I must write to your Ladyship; for, Madam, my wife<sup>1</sup> is scarce in charity with me, for

<sup>1</sup> About 1687, Burnet married, in Holland, Mrs. Mary Scott, a Dutch lady of large fortune, and noble extraction. Her ancestor on the father's side was of the family of Buccleuch, who settled in Holland; on the mother's side, who was a De Ruyter, she was related to the principal

my not offering her most humble service to your 1689. Ladyship and your children; and, therefore, that I may not forget it again, I must now begin with it, and so be again in her favour. She is not a little proud of the many honours you have done her; and desires most earnestly to be looked on by you, as one that has all the value and admiration for you, which she can possibly pay you. I do in the next place, on my own account, make my most humble acknowledgments for the great care you have had of my books, which I have now cased up in your Ladyship's cases for Salisbury. I have been so long accustomed to be obliged to your Ladyship, and have so long a score to reckon for, that I will never offer to clear it. All I can say is, that as I have met with all the noble marks of a most obliging goodness and friendship from your Ladyship, so no heart can possibly be fuller of a deep sense of it than mine is. And as long as I live I will reckon myself as much a property to you, as anything can be that eats your bread; and you and yours may ever depend upon all that I can ever do, as much as if I were bought with

families in Guelderland. With these advantages of birth, she had those of a fine person; was well skilled in drawing, music, and painting; and spoke Dutch, English, and French equally well. Her knowledge in matters of divinity was such as might rather be expected from a student than from a lady. She had a fine understanding and sweetness of temper, and excelled in all the qualifications of a dutiful wife, a prudent mistress of a family, and a tender mother of children.—*Life of Burnet*. "History of Reformation," vol. vi. p. 272. 8vo. Ox. 1823.



1689. your money. You will, perhaps, wonder how I have got into this strain, that am so little apt even to say what I ought to do upon such subjects; but a heart that is very full will sometimes give itself a little vent; and, therefore, forgive me for saying that at sometimes, which I think at all times.

I will not undertake to write much news to your Ladyship, only that from Londonderry is so good, that there is now great reason to hope for a speedy issue of that siege.<sup>1</sup> Murrarty's<sup>2</sup> driving so many thousands of Irish Protestants to Londonderry, either to die before it, or to be let in to eat up their provisions, is a piece of cruelty, that if persisted in, will bring on great barbarities; and will raise our mobile again on the Papists of England. We are not quite sure whether the French fleet is out or not; for though there is some reason

<sup>1</sup> See "Account of the Siege of Londonderry," by George Walker, Bishop of Londonderry, celebrated for his military courage. On the 30th of July, after the inhabitants had been reduced to the necessity of eating dogs, horseflesh, hides, and tallow, two English ships entered the bay, laden with provisions. The garrison lost 3200 men, and of the 4300 who remained more than 1000 were unfit for duty. On the representations of Walker, the twelve London Companies advanced 100*l.* each for the repair of the city.

<sup>2</sup> General Macarty, an Irish Roman Catholic of the family of the Earl of Clancarty, which peerage was forfeited in 1691. He was for some time in the French service. Burnet<sup>a</sup> gives an account of James II. being desirous of employing him, and of Lord Halifax's urging the King rather to reward him by pensions than in a way that would raise clamour and jealousy.

<sup>a</sup> History of his Own Time, vol. ii. p. 448. 8vo. Ox. 1823.

to believe it, yet there is much reason to doubt of 1689. it. If it is true, there will be a speedy decision at sea, upon which a great deal will depend. You will know that there has been much heat to-day in the House of Commons, with relation to the two Marquises<sup>1</sup> for removing them both. I dined to-day with one of them, who seems not to be much troubled at it: perhaps he thought it was a victory, because the debate was adjourned; but after all, those wounds are no desirable things. I know your Ladyship has all our news from other hands, so I will give you no other trouble, but to assure you, that I am, with all possible duty,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most humble,

And most obedient servant,

GI. SARUM.

Saturday night.

<sup>1</sup> The Marquises of Halifax and Carmarthen. The character of the former has recently been drawn in an admirable manner by Mr. Macaulay, who says of him, "He pretended, indeed, that he considered titles and great offices as baits which could allure none but fools, that he hated business, pomp, and pageantry, and that his dearest wish was to escape from the bustle and glitter of Whitehall to the quiet woods which surrounded his ancient hall at Rufford (now the seat of the Earl of Scarborough), but his conduct was not a little at variance with his professions. In truth he wished to command the respect at once of courtiers and of philosophers, to be admired for attaining high dignities, and to be at the same time admired for despising them." His death in 1695, liberated him from the pomp of Courts and the woods of his beloved Rufford. The character of the Marquis of Carmarthen, so created in 1689, and afterwards Duke of Leeds, has also been portrayed by Mr. Macaulay. Sir Walter Scott, in his note on Dryden's "All for Love," which was dedicated to the Marquis when Earl of Danby, says, "His character was of

## LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

1689. YOUR letter came to me, good Doctor, just as you designed it; I must, or be very injurious to you, say, you are a very mindful friend, and I should be injurious to myself, if I did not say I am a very thankful receiver of your compassionate charity; and your sense of my loss touches me very obligingly.

It is very natural, I believe, to be pleased another thinks as I do, to some degree, of my pain or pleasure, and that one does not foolishly affect either. You instance very right, Sir, it was an entire affection which was between us; and no time, I believe, can ever waste my sorrow. All I desire is to make it innocent.

For the late circumstances in relation to the family, I would have assisted to my power for the

the most divided kind: he was fertile in expedients, and had always something new to substitute for those which failed; a faculty highly acceptable to Charles, who loved to be relieved, even were it but in idea, from the labour of business, and the pressure of difficulty. In other points he was probably not very scrupulous, since even Dryden found cause to say at length that—

‘Danby’s matchless impudence  
Helped to support the knave.’”

In 1690, an attempt was made to impeach him. Burnet says, “He was believed to have the greatest credit with the King and Queen, and was again falling under an universal hatred. He was created Duke of Leeds in 1694 to colour the dismissing him from business with the increase of title.”

procuring thereof, but for any sensible joy at these 1689. outward things, I feel none : I think I should, if I live to see him a worthy man.

Your discourse is very fine, gathered from the philosophers, but that would not do my business. I know there is no disputing with an Almighty Power; and what He gives us He may take away at his own time, and we have no reason to complain; but yet, if my delight is gone, I must be sorry it is taken. But your Christian doctrine has much more power in it. There you tell us the particular advantage that all good people have by particular trials of faith, if they behave themselves as they ought. We gain the content in our mind that our faith is sincere, by our willing obedience to all providences; and God will not forget any good thing in us; we shall have a reward; there is a promise of everlasting life; and what would not one do to obtain it. For we love ourselves too well, not to desire to be well always. I may say it is a great bait to do our duty, so that if we have faith, we shall have love and obedience.

Your prayer I like so well, that I have used it with such fervour as I can, more than once this serious day. And hope I shall more and more acquiesce in these dark providences.

I received a letter from my sister, which I have just read: she says her son is well recovered of the measles, but is very lean, and her daughter pale; that she is going in a few days to Boughton. I

1689. believe country air will be to their advantage ; I pray God spare them to her, poor woman.

London is like to be my retreat from hence, for Lord Bedford seems to have no hope of getting yet to Woborne ; and I am not prepared at Stratton ; but what one seems so directed to, I hope will do well. Lord Carberry's<sup>1</sup> Lady is dead. It is kept very carefully from the Princess, who goes very long for one so big as she was. I hear Lady Gainsborough is recovering. The Dowager Lady writes me word she had some thoughts of sending Lady Julian to the bath ; that Lady Northampton was to take the opinion of Doctor Lower. Truly I wish he may advise it, for I have believed a good while it was the best thing she could do, and I am glad she is in hands will leave nothing undone may be thought to her advantage, for that I do firmly believe my Lady will not, as I do that I shall always be Dr. Fitzwilliam's

Faithful friend and servant.

July 21, 1689.

---

LORD HALIFAX TO LADY RUSSELL.<sup>2</sup>

MADAM,

I must own that my reason is not strong enough to bear with indifference the losses that have lately

<sup>1</sup> Vaughan, Earl of Carberry in Ireland. The title became extinct in 1701.

<sup>2</sup> From Miss Berry's Memoir.

happened in my family ; but, at the same time, I 1689.  
 must acknowledge I am not a little supported by  
 the continuance of your Ladyship's favour to me,  
 in the obliging remembrance I have received from  
 you, and in your condoling the affliction of the  
 man in the world that is most devoted to you. I  
 am impatient till I have the honour of an hour's  
 conversation with your Ladyship, to ease my mind  
 of the just complaints I have, that such returns  
 are made to the zeal I have endeavoured to express,  
 in my small capacity for the good of England. I  
 cannot but think it the fantastical influence of my  
 ill stars, very peculiar to myself, all circumstances  
 considered ; but whilst I am under the protection  
 of your Ladyship's better opinion, the malice or  
 mistakes of others can never have the force so  
 much as to discompose,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obedient servant,

HALIFAX.<sup>1</sup>

London, July 23, 1689.

<sup>1</sup> The above letter from Lord Halifax, in answer to one of condolence which Lady Russell had addressed to him on his losing two sons\* within the short space of a twelvemonth, expresses an entire confidence in her heart and understanding, as well as much devotion to her interests. It is written while under those feelings of dissatisfaction, to which his unpopularity with the triumphant Whigs had given rise, and which ended, soon after, in his resignation of the Privy Seal.

---

\* Henry ; and George, who was slain at the siege of Buda, 1688.

## LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

1689. I AM most ready, good Doctor, to furnish you towards a correspondence; but any matter I am sure serves you if mine does. Now the matter you supply me with is too fine, or too strong, indeed both, for me to meddle with. I am sorry you missed Lord Montagu, though I despair of argument winning you, who I believe have gone through all; but his power and good-will might be useful to you, and all the service which can be done you, I wish you may find friends to do it, and would refuse no part I can act.

I am very sorry the case stands with you as it does in reference to the oath; and still wonder (unless I could find Kings of divine right) why it does so! and all this is the acceptation of a word which I never heard two declare the meaning of but they differed in their sense of it. You say you could have taken it in the sense some worthy men have done? Why will you be more worthy than those men? It is supererogation.

If you can avoid mental reservation, that's the biggest thing to me, for I hate that to God or man; properly I know we can have none to God, though we may wish to have it; but I abhor that wish. But you seem to say, though you are permitted to declare, that is not enough, as not being consistent

with the simplicity of an oath, and that it ought to 1689. be taken according to the mind of the imposers. If you can take it, as those you mention have done, declaring they meant legal obedience and peaceable submission, I dare say you do so; no more is meant to be imposed, especially by the King and Queen. And does not being content with the construction your friends put upon it, signify their permission to take it in such a sense! It was my Lord Nottingham's<sup>1</sup> misfortune to pitch upon that word which gives such scruples. But methinks (with submission to wiser heads) it should be a greater to weaken the interest of the Church and the Protestant religion all the world over to the degree so

<sup>1</sup> Daniel Finch, second Earl of Nottingham, and afterwards sixth Earl of Winchilsea. When the convention was opened, in January, 1688-9, the Earl of Nottingham was the principal person who managed the debates in favour of a Regent, in opposition to those who were for setting up another King, supporting his opinion by many arguments from our English history. He thought a King *de facto* had a right to their obedience, and that they were bound to adhere to him and to defend him, even in opposition to him with whom they thought the right did still remain. Yet Bishop Burnet relates, that his Lordship told him, "That though he could not argue nor vote but according to the scheme and principles he had concerning our laws and constitution, yet he should not be sorry to see his side outvoted; and that though he could not agree to the making a King, as things stood, yet, if he found one made, he would be more faithful to him than those that made him could be, according to their own principles." He refused to be Lord Chancellor, but was made one of the Secretaries of State.

Lord Dover, in a note to the Ellis Correspondence, says, "The tediousness and gravity of his harangues, united with a dark and rueful countenance, had obtained for him, among his contemporaries, the appellation of 'Old Dismal.'" He died in 1730.



1689. many able men incapacitating themselves to serve in the Church will do, if God in much mercy prevent it not.

It is above great and good men to regard reflections, if they give not a just cause of scandal; and in serving the cause of God the best we can, there is none given. It may very well be, passive obedience went too high. Some drove Jehu-like. If it appears they perceive they did so, ought there to be shame in that, or ought it not to be borne cheerfully? If their nakedness is laid open, and some Hams do insult, still they should be above it, and overcome evil with good. I never thought good men had any harm by the ill-natured speeches of malicious spirits. God knows the very best of men have infirmities; but they are ill men that retort them. However, after all is said, or can be said, a man must be quiet in his own breast if he can. When I began to write in this paper, I meant not one word of all I have said on this subject; but I know, good Doctor, you will take it right; accept well of my good meaning towards you, and excuse my defects. I pretend not to argue, but where my wishes are earnest, I speak without reserve; sometimes by surprise; but take it as it is; I will not look back to examine; I know I need not to you.

I am just now, when I have signed this, going to write to my sister, and will remember your charge.

Knowing you could not be at Lord Gainsbo-

rough's, I writ to Cotenham: I guess you have 1689.  
missed it. The waters did exceedingly well with  
the children. After they had done, Rachel was ill  
for twenty-four hours of a feverish distemper; but  
bleeding got it over. I am your willing friend to  
serve you, though others may more effectually than

R. RUSSELL.

August 31, 1689.

---

DEAN TILLOTSON<sup>1</sup> TO LADY RUSSELL.

London, Sept. 19, 1669.

HONOURED MADAM,

I received both your letters, and before the  
latter came to my hands, I gave your Ladyship  
some kind of answer to the first, as the time would

<sup>1</sup> On the 10th September, 1689, Dr. Tillotson wrote the following letter, from Edmonton to Lady Russell, giving her an account of the King's having conferred the bishopric of Chichester on Dr. Patrick; and the rectory of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, falling to his Majesty's disposal by this promotion, Dean Tillotson informed her Ladyship, that he believed the King would not dispose of that living but to one whom the Earl of Bedford, the patron of it, should approve, and therefore asked her, whether his Lordship and she would be willing that the Earl of Nottingham should mention to his Majesty on that occasion Dr. John Moore.\* In the same letter the Dean takes notice of his having spoken to the King the Sunday before concerning Mr. Samuel Johnson; and that his Majesty seemed well inclined to what he had moved for that divine, but did not positively determine to take that course. This refers to some request which Lady Russell had desired the Dean to make to his Majesty in favour of Mr. Johnson, for whom she had great zeal, out of regard both to the memory of her husband, whose chaplain he had been, and to the merit of his writings and sufferings.—Birch.

\* Subsequently Bishop of Norwich and Ely.

1689. let me, for the post stayed for it. But having now a little more leisure, you will, I hope, give me leave to trouble you with a longer letter.

I was not at Hampton Court last Sunday, being almost tired out with ten weeks' attendance, so that I have had no opportunity to try further in the business I wrote of in my last, but hope to bring it to some issue the next opportunity I can get to speak with the King. I am sorry to see in Mr. Johnson<sup>1</sup> so broad a mixture of human frailty with so considerable virtues. But when I look into myself, I must think it pretty well, when any man's infirmities are in any measure over-balanced by his better qualities. This good man I am speaking of has at some times not used me over

<sup>1</sup> In a paper to justify Lord Russell's opinion, "that resistance may be used in case our religion and rights should be invaded," as an answer to the Dean's letter to his Lordship of July 20, 1683, Johnson observes, that this opinion could not be wrested from his Lordship at his death, notwithstanding the disadvantages at which he was taken, when he was practised upon to retract that opinion, and to bequeath a legacy of slavery to his country. And, indeed, the Dean was so apprehensive of Lady Russell's displeasure at his pressing his Lordship, though with the best intentions, upon that subject, that when he was first admitted to her after her Lord's death, he is said to have addressed her in this manner—That he first thanked God and then her Ladyship, for that opportunity of justifying himself to her; and they soon returned to the terms of a cordial and unreserved friendship.—Birch. Mr. Johnson wrote "Julian the Apostate," to prove the legality of resistance; and an address to King James II.'s army; he was fined, imprisoned, pilloried, and whipped, after being degraded. The Revolution restored him to his liberty; the judgment against him in 1686 was declared illegal and cruel, and his degradation null; and the House of Lords recommended him to King William. He died 1703.—Birch. He refused the rich deanery of Durham.

well; for which I do not only forgive him, when I 1689. consider for whose sake he did it, but do heartily love him.

The King, besides his first bounty to Mr. Walker,<sup>1</sup> whose modesty is equal to his merit, hath made him Bishop of Londonderry, one of the best bishoprics in Ireland; that so he may receive the reward of that great service in the place where he did it. It is incredible how much everybody is pleased with what the King hath done in this matter, and that it is no small joy to me to see that God directs him wisely.

I will now give your Ladyship a short account of his Majesty's disposal of our English church preferments, which I think he has done as well as could be expected, in the midst of the powerful importunities of so many great men, in whom I

<sup>1</sup> Mr. George Walker, justly famous for his defence of Londonderry, in Ireland (when Lunde the governor would have surrendered it to King James II.), was born of English parents in the county of Tyrone in that kingdom, and educated in the University of Glasgow, in Scotland; he was afterwards Rector of Donnoghmore, not many miles from the city of Londonderry. Upon the Revolution, he raised a regiment for the defence of the Protestants: and upon the intelligence of King James having a design to besiege Londonderry, retired thither, being at last chosen governor of it. After the raising of that siege he came to England, where he was most graciously received by their Majesties; and on the 19th of November, 1689, received the thanks of the House of Commons, having just before published an account of that siege, and had a present of 5000*l*. He was created D.D. by the University of Oxford on the 26th Feb., 1689-90, in his return to Ireland, where he was killed the beginning of July, 1690, at the passage of the Boyne, having resolved to serve that campaign before he took possession of his bishopric.—Birch.

1689. discern too much of court art and contrivance for the preferment of their friends: yea, even in my good Lord Nottingham more than I could wish. This is a melancholy consideration to one in my station, in which I do not see how it is possible so to manage a man's self between civility and sincerity, between being willing to give good words to all, and able to do good to very few, as to hold out an honest man, or even the reputation of being so a year to an end.

But now begins my trouble. After I had kissed the King's hand for the deanery of St. Paul's, I gave his Majesty my most humble thanks, and told him that now he had set me at ease for the remainder of my life. He replied, "No such matter, I assure you;" and spoke plainly about a great place, which I dread to think of, and said, "It was necessary for his service, and he must charge it upon my conscience." Just as he had said this, he was called to supper, and I had only time to say, that when his Majesty was at leisure I did believe I could satisfy him that it would be most for his service that I should continue in the station in which he had now placed me. This hath brought me into a real difficulty. For, on the one hand, it is hard to decline his Majesty's commands, and much harder yet to stand out against so much goodness as his Majesty is pleased to use towards me. On the other, I can neither bring my inclination nor my judgment to it. This I owe to the Bishop of Salisbury, one of the

worst and best friends I know; best, for his singular good opinion of me; and the worst, for directing the King to this method, which I know he did; as if his Lordship and I had concerted the matter how to finish this foolish piece of dissimulation, in running away from a Bishopric to catch an Archbishopric. This fine device hath thrown me so far into the briars, that without his Majesty's great goodness, I shall never get off without a scratched face. And now I will tell your Ladyship the bottom of my heart. I have of a long time, I thank God for it, devoted myself to the public service, without any regard for myself, and to that end have done the best I could in the best manner I was able. Of late God hath been pleased by very severe ways,<sup>1</sup> but in great goodness to me, to wean me perfectly from the love of this world; so that worldly greatness is now not only undesirable, but distasteful to me. And I do verily believe, that I shall be able to do as much or more good in my present station, than in a higher, and shall not have one jot less interest or influence upon any others to any good purpose; for the people naturally love a man that will take great pains and little preferment. But on the other hand, if I could force my inclination to take this great place, I foresee that I should sink under it, and grow melancholy and good for nothing, and after a little while die as a fool dies.

But this, Madam, is a great deal too much, upon

<sup>1</sup> The loss of his two daughters, his only children,

1689. one of the worst and nicest subjects in the world—a man's self.

As I was finishing this long letter, which if your goodness will forgive, I hope never to have occasion to try it so far again, I received your letter, and shall say no more of Dr. More, of whose preaching I always knew your Ladyship's opinion. The person I mentioned was Mr. Kidder,<sup>1</sup> on whom the King has bestowed the Deanery of Peterborough,

<sup>1</sup> The following letter from the Earl of Bedford, on the vacancy in the living of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, displays an earnest desire for its being worthily filled up. The promotion of Dr. Kidder prevented the Duke's wish being fulfilled:—

“THE EARL OF BEDFORD TO S. PATRICK, DEAN OF ELY.

“Woburn Abbey, Sept. 20, 1689.

“MR. DEAN,

“I have received two letters from you lately, in which you acquaint me that the King has fixed upon you to be Bishop of Chichester, which though I must look upon as a great blow to me, and the parish of Covent Garden, to lose a person so instrumental for so long, in doing good there and preserving the quiet and peace of the parish, yet, in consideration of the public, and the opportunity so fitting a person as you will have to be more useful in so great a station, I do the less repine at it. But since it is a matter of such importance to have the place you are leaving supplied with an able, conscientious, honest, prudent, and well-tempered man, you may imagine my thoughts have been much taken up about that affair. And in order to a good choice I always resolved to make use of your judgment, who know so well the temper of that parish, and are so able to judge of a person that is likeliest, in all respects, both to profit them in the best sense, and to please them as far as may be consistent therewith, and conducing thereto, that they may be kept together in unity, as you have left them. I must, therefore, let you know, that Mr. Kidder, the City Minister, has been recommended to me by some most judicious and worthy persons, as an excellently-tempered man, a learned divine, and a most practical and judicious preacher; and, indeed, the sermon I heard him preach two years since in Covent Garden, I was so much taken with

and therefore cannot have it. I am fully of your 1689. Ladyship's opinion, that what my Lord Bedford does in this matter, must not appear to be done by him, for fear of bringing other importunities upon the King. If my Lord thinks well of Dr. Horneck, Dr. Moore would then certainly have St. Andrews.

I thank God for the health your family enjoys, as for that of my own; and equally pray for the continuance of it, and all other blessings. I would fain find room to tender my humble service to my Lord Bedford, my Lord Russell, and two of the best young ladies I know.

I am, honoured Madam, more than I can express,

Your most obliged and obedient servant,

JOHN TILLOTSON.

that from that time I have entertained a high opinion of him: and, indeed, all that I have spoken with about him do give him the like character. Let me, therefore, now desire you to be free with me in letting me know your judgment, by what you have heard, if you have no intimate acquaintance with his person. Whether you think him a fit man, or whether you have any objections against him; assuring you that what you communicate to me herein shall go no further, but be kept a secret, as if it were kept only in your own breast, and heartily thank you for nominating a person whom you think so able, and deserving, and whom I must have an esteem for on that account. But let me entreat you to return me an answer with all freedom about Mr. Kidder, and as soon as possible, because the business requires haste, and I am advised by some about the King that it will be necessary for me to fix upon one speedily that I may recommend, lest something may intervene: for solicitations are many and pressing, from several hands. Mr. Kidder is well known to the Dean of Canterbury, who gives a great character of him, as knowing him well. And if he be in town you may please to consult him about him, especially in case you are acquainted with him yourself."



## LADY RUSSELL TO DR. TILLOTSON.

1689. **WHENEVER**, Mr. Dean, you are disposed, and at leisure to give it me, I can be well content, I assure you, to read the longest letter you can write. But I had not so soon told a truth you cannot choose but know, if this paper was not to be hastened to you with a little errand that I am well enough pleased to be employed in; because the effect will be good, though the cause does not please me; being you said Mr. Kidder<sup>1</sup> cannot have Covent Garden, because he is Dean of Peterborough (though I do not conceive why, unless it is because he is great, and others are not). But Lord Bedford leans strongly to offer him to the King; it is from what you said to me has made him do so. Yet if you judge he should not now be the man, I am enjoined to obtain from you some character of one Mr. Freeman,<sup>2</sup> and

<sup>1</sup> Richard Kidder, a learned divine, was made Dean of Peterborough on the elevation of Dr. Patrick to the see of Chichester; and on Ken's refusal to take the oaths to King William and Mary, succeeded that excellent prelate in the bishopric of Bath and Wells. He published several works, among which the most esteemed are his Lectures preached in pursuance of the will of the Honourable Robert Boyle. His death was a melancholy one, being killed in his bed by the fall of a stack of chimneys in the great storm in November, 1703.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Freeman, D.D., Chaplain to the King, obtained the living. He preached a funeral sermon on the death of his noble patron, which is printed. London: 1700. 4to. He was afterwards Dean of Peterborough.

Mr. Williams;<sup>1</sup> the last I have heard you speak <sup>1689.</sup> well of, but I did not heed his just character. What you think fit to say to me shall not be imparted but in general terms, if you like that best; though Lord Bedford is as close as can be desired, as well inclined as possible, to do the best; and will have me say something of these men before he fixes, which my Lord Shrewsbury advises him to quickly.

Moore<sup>2</sup> he is averse to; Horneck<sup>3</sup> the parish is also, as he is well informed, to a high degree. So Kidder, Williams, and Freeman are before him. I desire two or three lines upon this subject, by the first post, if you please.

Though my paper is full enough, especially to a man that has no more spare time than you have, yet I must just touch upon some other parts of your letter, being they touch me most sensibly. I bless God that inclines the heart of our King to do well; it looks as if God meant a full mercy to these long-threatened kingdoms. I thank Mr. Dean very heartily for those thoughts that influence and heighten his charity to Mr. Johnson. I will not say what I do more, but you must needs know. Mr.

<sup>1</sup> John Williams, prebendary of Canterbury, afterwards Bishop of Chichester, died 1709.

<sup>2</sup> John Moore, prebendary of Norwich, afterwards Bishop of the same see, and translated to Ely.

<sup>3</sup> Anthony Horneck, D.D. He was patronised by Russell, Earl of Orford, who solicited the Queen for preferment for him, which was refused: subsequently, on Tillotson's recommendation, he was made a prebendary of Westminster.

1689. Dean, now a few words to your own concern, that bears so heavy upon your mind, and I have done. I know not if I should use the phrase, "integrity is my idol;" but I'm sure I admire and love it hugely wherever I meet it. I would never have a sincere person crossed. I do pity you, Mr. Dean, and I think you have a hard game upon your hands, which, if it should happen you cannot play off your own way, you can do better than a man less mortified to the world could; being if you serve the interest of religion and the King's, you are doing what you have dedicated yourself to, and therefore can be more regardless of the ignorant or wicked censurer; for, upon my word, I believe you will incur no other: your character is above it, if what you fear should come upon you. But as I conceive there are six months yet to deliberate upon this matter, you know the old saying, many things fall out between the cup and the lip; and pray do not fill your head with the fears of a trouble, though never so great, that is at a distance and may never be; for if you think too much on a matter you dread, it will certainly disturb your quiet, and that will infallibly your health; and you cannot but see, Sir, that would be of a bad consequence. The King is willing to hear you. You know your own heart to do good, and you have lived some time, and have had experience. You say well that such an one is the best and worst friend.—I think I should have had more tenderness to the will or temper of my friend;

and for his justification, one may say, he prefers 1689. good to many, before gratifying one single person, and a public good ought to carry a man a great way. But I see your judgment (if your inclination does not bias too far) is heartily against him in this matter, that you think you cannot do so much good then as now. We must see if you can convince him thereof; and when he is master of that notion, then let him labour to make your way out of those briars he has done his part to bring you into; though something else would have done it without him, I believe, if I am not mistaken in this, no more than I am that this letter is much too long from, &c.

September, 1689.

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BISHOP OF SALISBURY TO LADY RUSSELL.

YOUR Ladyship will find, by the date of my last, that a general sympathy led us both to write very near the same day to one another. I humbly thank you for the great honour you have done me. Mrs. Burnet is extreme sensible of her share in it, and with her humble thanks and most humble service she bids me tell you that your godson thrives extremely, and grows every day stronger and stronger.

I humbly thank your Ladyship for the account that you were so good as to give me of Londonderry. The Providence of God has been hitherto

1689. very signal in the whole progress of this revolution. God grant that our sins put not a stop to it. Those who stand out against it had need be very sure they are in the right, lest they be found to fight against God. There are but three of them in all in my diocese, but, indeed, two of these are men of great worth. There is a commissioner sent to me, to govern the dioceses of Bath and Wells and Gloucester during the suspension upon the renewing of it. I have sent one express to both the Bishops, to let them know that though my hand and seal are now necessary for the affairs of their sees, yet they shall always determine me in everything in which they will signify their minds to me or my Chancellor. For this I obtained the King and Queen's allowance before I left the Court. Thus they will see that they are as well used as is possible by us, which I am sure is far different from what we might expect from them if we were in their power. Some in London fancy that the "History of Passive Obedience"<sup>1</sup> will do great feats, for they take care to send down by every carrier great packets of them to our clergy here, with some to them gratis, for they do not know who sends them.

I am now to go my visitation, and am to preach all round myself, so that in less than three weeks' time I shall preach a dozen sermons. I thank God

<sup>1</sup> "History of Passive Obedience since the Reformation." 4to. Ant. 1689. Numerous replies were printed to this pamphlet. See Catalogue of the British Museum (Obedience).

I find all the appearances of a hearty welcome into <sup>1689.</sup> this country that can be expected, and there are many worthy clergymen in this diocese, though there is a sad mixture of bad ones. I will understand what I have to do a little better when I have once gone round the country and seen them all. Thus you see I still please myself with hoping that you have still the same goodness for me, and that you will not be unwilling to be entertained with my concerns. I will now say somewhat to you of a thing which relates if not to yourself yet at least to the family. I believe the Dean of Peterborough will be made Bishop of Chichester, so here Covent Garden falls within the prerogative. Mr. Kidder in London is both one of the best preachers, one of the best men and learnedest men in the city, who was always right and moderate, and a true Englishman as well as a true Protestant. This man, if his voice will fill that great church, will be a great blessing to the parish. Next him, I think, Dr. Horneck is one of the best and most conscientious churchmen I know. These are the two that I have taken the liberty to recommend. I know the King will not give that without knowing the Earl of Bedford's mind, but yet even that must be well, otherwise if St. Andrews, Holborn, should be vacant, a friend of yours will pretend to be used in the same manner. If you think fit, you may move that Mr. Johnson may have the Deanery of Peterborough, which is none of the best, but is none of the worst. I have

1689. not time to give further at present, therefore I give my most humble service to the Earl of Bedford, and so to your Ladyship's most hopeful children. I pray God give you daily more and more joy in them, and continue long to them the blessing of such a mother.

I am, with all possible esteem and duty,

Madam,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

GEORGE SARUM.

Salisbury, Sept. 7, 1689.

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DEAN TILLOTSON TO LADY RUSSELL.

Edmonton, Sept. 24, 1689.

HONOURED MADAM,

Just now I received your Ladyship's letter. Since my last, and not before, I understand the great averseness of the parish from Dr. Horneck; so that if my Lord of Bedford had liked him, I could not have thought it fit, knowing how necessary it is to the good effect of a man's ministry, that he do not lie under any great prejudice with the people. The two whom the Bishop of Chichester hath named, are, I think, of the worthiest of the city ministers, since Mr. Kidder declines it, for the reason given by the Bishop, and, if he did not, could not have it; not because of any inconsistency in the preferments, but because the King, having so many obligations yet to answer, cannot, at the same

time, give two such preferments to one man. For 1689. the two persons mentioned, if comparison must be made between two very good men, I will tell your Ladyship my free thoughts of them.

Mr. Williams is really one of the best men I know, and most unwearied in doing good, and his preaching very weighty and judicious. The other is a truly pious man, and of a winning conversation. He preaches well, and hath much the more plausible delivery, and, I think, a stronger voice. Both of them (which I had almost forgot) have been steady in all changes of times. This is the plain truth; and yet I must not conceal one particular and present advantage on Dr. Freeman's side. On Sunday night last, the King asked me concerning a city minister, whose name he had forgot; but said, he had a very kind remembrance of him, having had much conversation with him, when His Majesty was very young, in Holland, and wondered he had never seen him since he came into England.

I could not imagine who he should be, till his Majesty told me he was the English Ambassador's Chaplain above twenty years ago, meaning Sir William Temple's. Upon that I knew it was Dr. Freeman. The King said that was his name, and desired me to find him out, and tell him that he had not forgot him, but remembered with pleasure the acquaintance he had with him many years ago; and had charged me, when there was an opportunity, to put him in mind of him. This I thought both



1689. great goodness in the King, and modesty in Dr. Freeman,<sup>1</sup> never to show himself to the King all this while. By this your Ladyship will judge, who is like to be most acceptable to the King, whose satisfaction, as well as service, I am obliged to regard, especially in the disposal of his own preferments, though Mr. Williams be much more my friend.

I mentioned Mr. Johnson again, but his Majesty put on other discourse; and my Lord Privy Seal told me yesterday morning, that the King thought it a little hard to give pensions out of his purse, instead of church preferments; and tells me Mr. Johnson is very sharp upon me. His Lordship called it railing, but it shall not move me in the least. His Lordship asked me, whether it would not be well to move the King to give him a good bishopric in Ireland, there being several void. I thought it very well if it would be acceptable. His Lordship said, that was all one; the offer would stop many mouths as well as his; which, I think, was well considered.

I will say no more of myself, but only thank your Ladyship for your good advice, which I have always a great disposition to follow, and a great deal of reason, being assured it is sincere as well as wise. The King hath set upon me again, with greater earnestness of persuasion than is fit for one that

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Freeman was instituted to the rectory of Covent Garden, December 28, 1689.

may command. I begged as earnestly to be considered in this thing, and so we parted upon good terms. I hope something will happen to hinder it. I put it out of my mind as much as I can, and leave it to the good providence of God for the thing to find its own issue. To that I commend you and yours; and am, Madam,

Yours, by all possible obligation,

JO. TILLOTSON.

If Mr. Johnson refuse this offer, and it should be my hard fortune not to be able to get out of this difficulty, which I will, if it be possible to do it without provocation, I know one that will do more for Mr. Johnson than was desired of the King, but still as from the King, for anything that he shall know. But, I hope, some much better way will be found; and that there will be neither occasion nor opportunity for this.<sup>1</sup>

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LADY MONTAGU TO LADY RUSSELL.

I AM very sorry, my dear sister, to find by yours, which I received by the last post, that your thoughts have been so much disturbed with what I thought

<sup>1</sup> The wryness of his temper, and turbulency of his genius, rendered him also unfit for the higher stations of the church, of which he was immoderately ambitious, not being able to obtain a bishopric; Lady Russell made use of the influence she had with Dr. Tillotson to solicit a pension for him, and in consequence of this application, the King granted Johnson 300*l.* a year for his own and his son's life, with 1000*l.* in

1689. ought to have some contrary effect.<sup>1</sup> It is very true, what is once taken from us, in that nature, can never be returned; all that remains of comfort (according to my temper) is a bringing to punishment those who were so wickedly and unjustly the cause of it.

I confess, it was a great satisfaction to me to hear that was the public care; it being so much to the honour, as well as what in justice was due to your dead Lord, that I do not doubt, when your sad thoughts will give you leave to recollect, you will find comfort.

I heartily pray God you may, and that you may never have the addition of any other loss, which is and ever shall be the prayer of,

Your entirely affectionate

E. MONTAGU.

Boughton, Dec. 23, 1689.

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LADY RUSSELL TO LADY SUNDERLAND.

I THINK I understand almost less than anybody, yet I knew better things than to be weary of receiving what is so good as my Lady Sunderland's letters; or not to have a due regard of what is so

money, and a place of 100*l.* a-year for his son. He died in 1703. All his treatises have been collected and published in one vol. folio, 1710, and again in 1713.

<sup>1</sup> This probably alludes to the Committee of the House of Commons to examine who were the advisers and promoters of the murder of Lord Russell, &c.

valuable as her esteem and kindness, with her promises to enjoy it my whole life. Truly, Madam, I can find no fault but one, and that is constantly in all the favours you direct to me, an unfortunate useless creature in the world, yet your Ladyship owns me as one had been of some service to you. Alas! I know I was not, but my intention was pure; I pitied your sorrow; I was hearty in wishing you ease, and, if I had an occasion for it, I could be diligent, but no further ability; and you are very good to receive it kindly. But, so unhappy a solicitor as I was once for my poor self and family, my heart misgives me when I aim at anything of that kind any more. Yet I hope I have at last learned to make the will of God, when declared, the rule of my content, and to thank Him for all the hard things I suffer as the best assurances of a large share in that other blessed state; and if what is dear to us is got thither before us, the sense what they enjoy, and we in a little while shall with them, ought to support us and our friends.

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LADY EDWARD RUSSELL<sup>1</sup> TO LADY RUSSELL.

Russell-street, July 6th, 1690.

BECAUSE our God is God, and not man, therefore we, who have deserved unmixed wrath, do hitherto

<sup>1</sup> From Miss Berry's Memoir. The Lady Edward Russell was the wife of Mr. Edward Russell, after his father's elevation to the Dukedom, Lord Edward Russell.

1690. sing both of mercy and judgment. The Lord has arisen, his enemies are scattered, and they that hate Him are fled before Him. It is, indeed, almost incredible what we have an account of, by an express that came to-day from Ireland. King James's army is so routed, that it is concluded he can never rally again. He fled himself to Dublin, where he found his reception so unexpectedly cold, that he durst not trust himself among his former friends there, but retired immediately into the county of Connaught, to a town that I did not hear named. I have not heard what numbers he has lost: I suppose, not many; for they ran so fast, death itself could not overtake them. We have, however, taken Hamilton<sup>1</sup> prisoner; and Lord Dungan and Lord Carlingford are dead. On our side not so much as an ensign killed, of the inferior officers; yet it has pleased God to suffer a musket-shot to put an end to the glorious days of the great and renowned Schomberg.<sup>2</sup> He fell not in battle,

<sup>1</sup> Count George Hamilton, the elder brother of Count Anthony Hamilton, who has given us many particulars of his brother's early life, in his incomparable memoirs of their brother-in-law, the Count de Grammont. Count George Hamilton, as we are there informed, married *la belle Jennings*. She was an elder sister of Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough; and, after Count George Hamilton's death, married George Talbot, Earl of Tyrconnell. See frequent mention of her, under the name of Lady Tyrconnell, in the letters of the Duke to the Duchess of Marlborough, in Cox's *Life of the Duke of Marlborough*. Sir William Ellis, secretary to the Duke of Marlborough, is said to have been in love with her, which led to Ellis espousing the Jacobite cause.

<sup>2</sup> Frederick, Duke of Schomberg, was of a noble family, originally of the Palatinate. He first signalised himself under Frederick Henry,

but received the wound in his throat, as he was <sup>1690.</sup> giving orders over a wall. Walker of Londonderry, standing near, was shot and killed at the same time. The Duke of Ormond writes, that it is thought Duke Schomberg's wound was not mortal, but that he rather died of his fall, for he pitched exactly on his head; however it was, he never rose again. The King was once more so near danger, that a bullet grazed upon the side of his boot, and passed him by. They say he has extremely exposed his person in this action. Once he was going towards the enemy at the head of a very small party of guards, which Lord Scarborough<sup>1</sup> being aware of, strictly commanded that not a man should stir: his orders were so well obeyed, that the King, having advanced a little way, turned about, and

Prince of Orange; after whose death he engaged in the service of France, commanded in Spain the Portuguese army in alliance with France, and afterwards the French army in Catalonia, with such success, that, although a Protestant, he received the bâton of a Maréchal of France in 1675.

On the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, he was suffered to leave France, on condition of going to Portugal. He afterwards got liberty to remove to Germany, and commanded as Generalissimo for the Elector of Bavaria. In the year 1688, he came over to England with King William, by whom he was immediately created Earl of Brentford, Marquis of Harwich, and Duke of Schomberg, with limitation, first to his youngest, and then to his second son, both of whom succeeded to his titles; but the first died in Italy, of wounds received in the battle of Marsaglia against the French, and the second dying without male issue, in 1719, the title became extinct. The Duke of Schomberg had been sent by King William to Ireland in the year 1689.

<sup>1</sup> Richard, first Earl of Scarborough. He attended King William in Ireland, and was present at the battle of the Boyne.

1690. found he was alone, so was forced to return to his company. Monsieur Callimot<sup>1</sup> is wounded, but it is hoped not mortally. We have taken several field-pieces from the enemy; and were upon a hot pursuit when the express came away. It is thought, by this time, the King has got to Dublin; where, to be sure, he is, or will be, very welcome to great numbers of miserable Protestants, whom, when King James went out to fight, he left enclosed in churches and other public places: what he designed further to do with them, God has graciously prevented. Hamilton,<sup>2</sup> who is taken prisoner, says, they have a recruit, under the command of Sarsfield,<sup>3</sup> consisting of eleven battalions, and three regiments of horse. Kirk<sup>4</sup> and his army were not concerned

<sup>1</sup> Monsieur la CailleMOTE received a mortal wound, and as he was carried back by four soldiers to the English camp, he encouraged those who were crossing the river by these words, "*A la gloire, mes enfans, à la gloire.*"—Tindal, Continuation of Rapin, vol. iii. p. 136.

<sup>2</sup> When he was brought to the King he was asked by him whether the Irish would fight any more. "Yes, sir," answered Hamilton, "upon my honour, I believe they will." When he pronounced the word honour the King looked disdainfully at him, and then turned about, repeating once or twice, *your honour*, intimating that what he affirmed upon his honour was not to be regarded, since that was forfeited before by his siding with Tyrconnel; and this was all the rebuke the King gave him for his breach of trust.—Tindal, Continuation of Rapin, vol. iii. p. 137.

<sup>3</sup> Patrick Saarsfield, created by James, after his abdication, Earl of Lucan. He was one of that King's best generals, and distinguished himself much during the war in Ireland. After the capitulation of Limerick, he is reported to have said to some of the English officers, "Low as we now are, change but Kings with us, and we will fight it over again with you."—Ellis Correspondence, note, vol. i. p. 58.

<sup>4</sup> Colonel Kirk, the ferocious officer whose cruelties in the West after

in this action: it is said the King considers him according to his merit. The King's wound heals, and is scabbed over; so that he is out of that danger, and, I trust, will be preserved from all other. He is as busy as if he had never been hurt; holds his bridle with his right hand, and fights with his left. He is as merciful as he is brave. He has caused Hamilton's wounds to be dressed; and treats him more like a friend than a traitor and a rebel.

Mr. Russell<sup>1</sup> is come in, and contradicts some of my news, adds to some, and tells some that I had not heard before; and all this I am to do by his direction, in so little time, that I fear I shall not write intelligibly. In the first place, he adds, that Monsieur Callimot is shot through the thigh; next, he contradicts that of Dr. Walker's death: all the letters had it, and it was generally believed in our army. The Secretary of War himself, upon whose letter Mr. Russell goes, says, in the beginning of it, that he is dead, but at last contradicts it, saying only thus, he was ridden over and stripped, but is well enough. How this happened I cannot imagine, for he does not say how he came to lie so low. That same letter gives a very full account of Duke Schomberg's death. Thirty of King James's men

the defeat of Mounmouth are too well known. Lord Dartmouth, in his note in Burnet's Own Times, says, "That no man was better received or more caressed by King William."

<sup>1</sup> Admiral Russell, afterwards created Earl of Orford. He was then a Commissioner of the Admiralty.



1690. made so good resistance, that all of them were killed upon the spot but five. These, endeavouring to make their escape that way, where they might most easily pass through our army, took the way that led to a little village, where the Duke was giving out orders: as they passed through it, they saw him, and, taking notice of his blue ribbon, shot the fatal bullets at him that put an end to his life.

I must contradict what I said, of our not having lost any men in this fight; for several officers in Count Solms's <sup>1</sup> blue regiment fell at the first encounter. They passed the river first, and bore alone the shock of all the enemy's horse before ours could come to their assistance, but they could not be broken. The Inniskillen men did not behave themselves so well: they made a brisk attack at first, but maintained their ground so ill, that, in retiring, they had like to have put the Dutch regiment of guards into great confusion. Indeed, we had all like to have been in confusion by their means; for one of them, by mistake, was ready to have shot the King, when he cried out, "What! don't ye know your friends from your foes?" and so prevented the blow. They could not persuade the King to hide his George, which increases his danger, as it aggravates the Inniskillen men's dulness. The bullet that I said touched his boot, was not from a cannon, but from a long gun. We have taken 7000 arms, all supposed to be French: they are

<sup>1</sup> The Count de Solms lost his life at the battle of Landen, in 1693.

good prize, for we wanted them extremely. The 1690. arms of two regiments of the enemy were found heaped up on the ground. Monsieur la Meloniere<sup>1</sup> was sent by the King to Drogheda, to summon them to a surrender, and to tell them, that if they delayed till his cannon came up, he would give no quarter. We expect to hear their answer by the next express. King James is gone from Dublin to Athlone; that is the name of the town I had not heard when I began my letter: it is forty-nine miles from Dublin: it is not a strong place, and therefore, it is supposed, he will go from thence to Galway, which is thirty-six miles from Athlone, where he may better defend himself. Lord Portland writes, that thirty Danes have behaved themselves to a miracle; but does not say on what occasion. I hear nothing of the praises of any of the English; indeed, all the praise belongs to God, and not to any other. He has wrought this great salvation for us, not for any worthiness in us, but because it pleased Him. For his own name's sake has He done this, and because his mercy endures for ever. Therefore, all our joy ought to be in the Lord, and we ought to rejoice with trembling; for still He holds the rod over us, so that we dare not say the bitterness of death is past. Indeed, we have cause to walk humbly, while that insolent

<sup>1</sup> M. de la Millioniere was a Brigadier-General in King William's service. The Governor at first seemed determined to defend the city, and received the summons with great contempt; but, on the King sending word that "if he was forced to bring his cannon before the place, he must expect no quarter," he accepted the conditions offered him.

1690. French enemy insults over us, and makes us prisoners, as it were, in our own island. There is nothing that I know of, but the providence of God, that hinders them from acting all manner of violence upon our coasts. Plymouth lies naked before them, —not so much as a governor in the town, nor militia up in the country: our fleet skulked into harbour, and they, for the present at least, absolute masters of the seas. Yet they are chained up by a Power above theirs, who causeth the wrath of man to praise Him, and the remainder thereof He restrains. Blessed be his name, that both we and our enemies are in his hands! The Lord enable us to lie very low before Him, in a sense of our own nothingness; for what are we, when He comes to contend with us! We shall be delivered from these, as well as from those adversaries in Ireland, when He pleases; and if not, let Him do to us as seems good in his sight.

One thing Mr. Russell bids me add:—he sees it is the opinion of some of the great men in town, that if they print that passage of my Lord Scarborough's, forbidding his men to follow the King, it will need a comment; for though it argues, they say, great presence of mind in my Lord to do what he did, yet the common people will not easily understand it. The Papists already say that the King's guards would not fight against King James: that is the use they make of it. If either Lord Portland's<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This does not appear to have been printed. It is not in the British

or Sir Robert Southwell's<sup>1</sup> letter be printed, as Mr. 1690. Russell thinks they will, he will to-morrow, by the post, send your Ladyship one of them. Major Parker was killed on King James's side, which I did not know when I named the other two.

Lord Torrington<sup>2</sup> is expected in town to-night, when the tide serves. He lays all the fault on the Commissioners of the Admiralty. I wish I knew where to lay that of having tired your Ladyship with an impertinent tedious letter, full of contradictions, and everything, bating the good news, that can make it need a pardon: but all this must lie (till that takes it off) on,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged affectionate  
Servant and Sister,

F. R.

Museum, or in the valuable collection of pamphlets in the Library of the London Institution.

<sup>1</sup> Sir Robert Southwell. See Collins's Peerage, vol. vi. p. 539. There is no trace of this letter. Sir Robert Southwell's despatches, during his embassy in Portugal, were collected and published in 1741.

Upon the death of Edward Southwell, Baron de Clifford, in 1832, the barony fell into abeyance between the *issus* of his three sisters, viz., Catherine, who married George Kien Hayward Cousmaker, Esq.; Sophia, who married John Thomas Townshend, afterwards Viscount Sydney; and Elizabeth, who married William, Earl of Albemarle. Their coheirs were Mrs. Russell, daughter of George Cousmaker, the two daughters of Viscount Sydney, and Augustus Viscount Bury. His Majesty King William IV. was pleased to terminate the abeyance in favour of Mrs. Russell in 1833, who is the present Baroness De Clifford.

<sup>2</sup> Arthur Herbert, descended from Lord Herbert, of Cherbury. He had commanded the Dutch fleet which brought over King William; for which, and other services at the Revolution, he was created Earl of Tor-

## LADY FRANCES RUSSELL TO LADY MARGARET RUSSELL.

Russell Street, July 12, 1690.

1690. I RECKON, Madam, I have very ill luck if the news letters and mine come to Woburn together, and those happen to be first opened, because I can write nothing but what is common to both that will bear reading; for that reason this will be a very intolerable letter, there being no news stirring that I know of, only what comes dropping from Ireland, and, to be sure, that has reached you before this will. Waterford, and Wexford, and Cork are delivered up, and King James is gone from Port Duncannon with only the Duke of Berwick, Tirconnel, Powis, and his son Fitzjames, grand prior of England; some say Lawson is gone with him too, but others say he stays to dispose of the French that he commanded. The business of Ireland is so well

rington. He was now first Commissioner of the Admiralty, and commanded in chief the English and Dutch fleets in the unfortunate engagement off Beachy Head, which (as is known) took place the very day before the battle of the Boyne. He had received positive orders to fight the French fleet wherever he met with it, and therefore engaged 82 ships with 56. In spite of this overwhelming inferiority, he succeeded in saving from destruction the fleets committed to his charge. But England, even then, before the unexampled triumphs of the last twenty years of her naval history, could not brook a failure of victory. Lord Torrington was deprived of his command, and committed to the Tower. He was afterwards tried by a court-martial and acquitted, but never again employed. He died without children in 1716, and his title became extinct.

over, that the King has sent over some of his men 1690. already, who are expected at Chester within a few days: this I am told, but Mr. Russell does not believe it. The printed papers speak so largely of the condition Dublin was found in, that I need say nothing of that. I hope we have not lost many men, for not above 10,000 of our army ever engaged the enemy. They talk hotly to-day of the French being landed in the West, but Mr. Russell says he hopes it is not so, because he could not hear it from any good hand, though it is said several expresses have brought that news; he bids me say, though, that he is well assured Lord Pembroke, Lord Macclesfield, Sir Robert Howard, Sir Henry Goodrich, and Sir Thomas Lea, go down to-morrow morning, to enquire into the miscarriages of the fleet. Lord Torrington's sentence is not difficult to foretel, when the jury is so well chosen; besides his having so considerable a party among the sea-captains. Monsieur Jourville, the French admiral, sent ours word by a Portugal ship, that he found his Lordship was not ready yet, but that he would stay for him till the latter end of August. Mr. Russell had this from several captains that were aboard the fleet. Mr. Montague, the clerk of the council, asked your brother how he could unriddle one expression in Tirconnel's letter to the late Queen. "We have no hopes," said he, "unless Mr. Jones's negotiation succeeds." It is too late for me to endeavour now to do it, for the post is just going;

1690. besides, Mr. Russell teazes me so to make an end, that I hardly know what I do. He sees I can design to write nothing more but strong lines. I am afraid it will be strong nonsense then, for I have done nothing sensible all this day. I fancy, Madam, you have had a great deal of trouble with my sister, and I dare say she a great deal of pleasure; it would have been so to me if I had been in her place. I know not what to say for the blot on the other side, but that I never saw it till my letter was almost written; then it was impossible to write it over again. I have sent your Ladyship a Help to Devotion, but we shall be beforehand with you, for to-morrow it is to be read in all the churches. I wish they had chosen a more distinguishing day, that we (might) have known our friends from our foes. I am troubled to hear of my Lady Russell's illness, but I hope it will soon be over. It is well for your Ladyship I have so good a monitor sits by me, for I am so well pleased with my employment, that I should not know when to make an end, but he considers better than I should have done, that the conclusion is always the best part of any letter written by,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most affectionate  
humble Servant and Sister,  
F. RUSSELL.

Be pleased, Madam, to tell my Lord, that Mr.

Russell and I present our most humble duties 1690.  
to his Lordship.

For the Right Hon. the Lady Margaret Russell,  
at Woborne Abbey, Bedfordshire.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

I ASSURE you, good Doctor, I was very well pleased this evening to receive another letter from you ; and much more than ordinary, because your last had some gentle hints in it, as if you thought I had taken some offence, though you kindly again said, you could not or would not imagine it, not being conscious of omission or commission, and indeed you have good reason for saying so ; I will at any time justify you in it, and do more commend your belief, that I either had not your letters, or was not well, than I could your mistrust of me for what will never happen. But an old dated paper has convinced you, and a newer had, if I had known where to have found you ; for in yours of the 5th of August you intimate that you meant (if it did not too much offend the eyes of a friend of mine that were weak) to make a stay at Windsor of ten days longer, and made no mention then whither you went. Now truly I had that letter, when I was obliged to write much to such as would congratulate my being well again, some



1690. in kindness, and some in ceremony. But so it was, that when I went to write, I found I should not know where to send it; so I deferred it till I had learned that. I sent to Mrs. Smith; she could not tell. I bid John send to Richard at Stratton to know if you were at Chilton, for I know Lady Gainsborough was not there then, but now you have informed me yourself.

By report I fear poor Lady Gainsborough is in new trouble: for though she has all the help of religion to support her, yet that does not shut us out from all sorrow; it does not direct us to insensibility if we could command it, but to a quiet submission to the will of God, making his ours as much as we can. Indeed, Doctor, you are extremely in the right to think that my life has been so embittered, it is now a very poor thing to me; yet, I find myself careful enough of it. I think I am useful to my children, and would endure hard things to do for them till they can do for themselves; but, alas! I am apt to conclude if I had not that, yet I should still find out some reason to be content to live, though I am weary of everything, and of the folly, the vanity, the madness of man most of all.

There is a shrinking from the separation of the soul from the body, that is implanted in our natures, which enforces us to conserve life: and it is a wise Providence; for who would else endure much evil, that is not taught the great advantages

of patient sufferings? I am heartily sorry, good 1690.  
 Doctor, that you are not exempt, which I am sure  
 you are not, when you cannot exercise your care  
 as formerly among your flock at Cotenham.<sup>1</sup> But I  
 will not enlarge on this matter, nor any other at  
 this time. That I might be certain not to omit  
 this respect to you, I have begun with it, and have  
 many behind, to which I must hasten, but first  
 desire you will present my most humble service to  
 my Lady; I had done myself the honour to write  
 to her, just as I believe she was writing to me, but  
 I will thank her yet for that favour. Either trouble  
 or the pleasure of her son's settlement engrosses  
 her, I apprehend, at this time, and business, I know,  
 is an attendant of the last.

I am, Sir,  
 Your constant friend and servant,  
 R. RUSSELL.

Woborne Abbey, Aug. 28, 1690.

## DEAN TILLOTSON TO LADY RUSSELL.

Edmonton, Oct. 9, 1690.

HONOURED MADAM,

Since I had the honour of your letter, I was  
 tempted to have troubled you with one of mine  
 upon the sad occasion of your late great loss of two

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Fitzwilliam was ejected as a Nonjuror.

1690. so near relations, and so near together.<sup>1</sup> But I considered, why should I pretend to be able either to instruct or comfort my Lady Russell, who hath borne things much more grievous with so exemplary a meekness and submission to the will of God, and knows, as well as I can tell her, that there is no remedy in these cases but patience, nor any comfort but in the hopes of the happy meeting of our deceased friends in a better life, in which sorrow and tears shall have no more place to all eternity!

And now I crave leave to impart something of my own trouble to your Ladyship. On Sunday last the King commanded me to wait upon him the next morning at Kensington. I did so, and met with what I feared. His Majesty renewed his former gracious offer, in so pressing a manner, and with so much kindness, that I hardly knew how to resist it. I made the best acknowledgments I could of his undeserved grace and favour to me, and begged of him to consider all the consequences of this matter, being well assured that all the storm, which was raised in convocation the last year by those who will be the Church of England, was upon my account, and that the Bishop of L—— was at the bottom of it, out of a jealousy that I might be a hindrance to him in attaining what he desires, and what I call God to witness I would

<sup>1</sup> The death of her sister, the Countess of Montagu, and of her nephew, Wriothesley Baptist, Earl of Gainsborough.

not have. And I told his Majesty, that I was still 1690. afraid that his kindness to me would be greatly to his prejudice, especially if he carried it so far as he was then pleased to speak; for I plainly saw they could not bear it; and that the effects of envy and ill-will towards me would terminate upon him. To which he replied, that if the thing were once done, and they saw no remedy, they would give over, and think of making the best of it; and therefore he must desire me to think seriously of it, with other expressions not fit for me to repeat. To all which I answered, that, in obedience to his Majesty's commands, I would consider of it again, though I was afraid I had already thought more of it than had done me good, and must break through one of the greatest resolutions of my life, and sacrifice at once all the ease and contentment of it; which yet I would force myself to do, were I really convinced that I was in any measure capable of doing his Majesty and the public that service which he was pleased to think I was. He smiled, and said, You talk of trouble; I believe you will have much more ease in it than in the condition in which you now are. Thinking not fit to say more, I humbly took leave.

And now, Madam, what shall I do? My thoughts were never at such a plunge. I know not how to bring my mind to it; and on the other hand, though the comparison is very unequal, when I remember how I saw the King affected in the case

1690. of my Lord of Shrewsbury,<sup>1</sup> I find myself in great strait, and would not for all the world give him the like trouble. I pray God to direct me to that which He sees and knows to be best, for I know not what to do. I hope I shall have your prayers, and would be glad of your advice, if the King would spare me so long. I pray God to preserve you and yours.

I am, honoured Madam, &c.

JO. TILLOTSON.

LADY RUSSELL TO DR. TILLOTSON.

YOUR letters will never trouble me, Mr. Dean ; on the contrary, they are comfortable refreshments to my, for the most part, overburthened mind, which, both by nature and by accident, is made so weak, that I cannot bear, with that constancy I should, the losses I have lately felt ; I can say, Friends and acquaintances Thou hast hid out of my sight, but I hope it shall not disturb my peace. These were young, and as they had began their race of life after me, so I desired they might have ended it also. But happy are those whom God retires in his grace—I trust these were so : and

<sup>1</sup> When that Earl resigned the post of Secretary of State, about 1690, the King sent Tillotson, and all those who had most credit with the Earl, to divert him from his resolution ; but all was to no purpose. The agitation of mind this gave him, threw him into a fever which almost cost him his life. The King pressed him to keep the seals till his return from Ireland, though he should not act as secretary, but he could not be prevailed upon.—Burnet, vol. iv. p. 80. Ox. 1823.

then no age can be amiss : to the young it is <sup>1690.</sup> not too early, nor to the aged too late. Submission and prayer is all, we know, that we can do towards our own relief in our distresses, or to disarm God's anger, either in our public or private concerns. The scene will soon alter to that peaceful and eternal home in prospect. But in this time of our pilgrimage, vicissitudes of all sorts are every one's lot. And this leads me to your case, Sir.

The time seems to be come that you must put anew in practice that submission,<sup>1</sup> you have so powerfully both tried yourself, and instructed others to ; I see no place to escape at : you must take up the cross and bear it ; I faithfully believe it has the figure of a very heavy one to you, though not from the cares of it ; since, if the King guesses right, you toil more now ; but this work is of your own choosing, and the dignity of

<sup>1</sup> Lady Russell alludes to Tillotson's letter to Lord Russell on passive obedience, printed in Lord John Russell's life of his ancestor,<sup>a</sup> who says, "That on receiving the papers he went into an inner room, and after staying some time, upon his return told the Dean he had read the letter, and was willing to be convinced, but could not say he was so ; and hoped God would forgive him if he were in error." Tillotson urged Burnet to endeavour to prevail on him, but Lord Russell answered he could not tell a lie. It will not now be denied that the opinion which Lord Russell entertained of the duty of a subject was more correct than that of the two worthy and respectable clergymen who attended him, and his asserting that opinion at a moment so solemn when a different conduct might perhaps have saved his life, ought to make his memory dear to every friend of freedom.

<sup>a</sup> Fourth edition, 1853, p. 319.

1690. the other is what you have bent your mind against, and the strong resolve of your life has been to avoid it. Had this even proceeded to a vow, it is, I think, like the virgins of old, to be dissolved by the father of your country. Again, though contemplation, and a few friends well chosen, would be your grateful choice, yet if charity, obedience, and necessity, call you into the great world, and where enemies encompass round about, must not you accept it? And each of these, in my mean apprehension, determines you to do it. In short, it will be a noble sacrifice you will make, and I am confident you will find as a reward, kind and tender supports, if you do take the burthen upon you: there is, as it were, a commanding Providence in the manner of it. Perhaps I do as sincerely wish your thoughts at ease as any friend you have, but I think you may purchase that too dear; and if you should come to think so too, they would then be as restless as before.

Sir, I believe you would be as much a common good as you can; consider how few of ability and integrity this age produces. Pray do not turn this matter too much in your head; when one has once turned it every way, you know that more does but perplex, and one never sees the clearer for it. Be not stiff, if it be still urged to you. Conform to the Divine Will, which has set it so strongly into the other's mind, and be content to endure; it is God calls you to it. I believe it was wisely said,

that when there is no remedy they will give it over, 1690. and make the best of it, and so I hope no ill will terminate on the King; and they will lay up their arrows, when they perceive they are shot in vain at him or you, upon whom no reflection that I can think of can be made that is ingenious; and what is pure malice you are above being affected with.

I wish, for many reasons, my prayers were more worthy, but such as they are, I offer them with a sincere zeal to the throne of grace for you in this strait, that you may be led out of it, as shall best serve the great ends and designs of God's glory.

October, 1690.

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DEAN TILLOTSON TO LADY RUSSELL.

October 25, 1690.<sup>1</sup>

HONOURED MADAM,

I am obliged to your Ladyship beyond all expression, for taking my case so seriously into your consideration, and giving me your mature thoughts upon it. Nothing ever came more seasonably to me than your letter, which I received on Wednesday se'nnight, the very night before I was to have given my final answer to the King the next morning. I thank you for it. It helped very much to settle and determine my wavering mind. I weighed all you wrote, both your advice and your argu-

<sup>1</sup> From a copy in short-hand, in his common-place book.



1690. ments, having not only an assurance of your true friendship and good will for me, but a very great regard and deference for your judgment and opinion. I cannot but own the weight of that consideration, which you are pleased to urge me withal; I mean the visible marks of a more than ordinary providence of God in this thing; that the King, who likes not either to importune or to be denied, should, after so obstinate a declining of the thing on my part, still persist to press it upon me with so much kindness, and with that earnestness of persuasion which it does not become me to mention. I wish I could think the King had a superior direction in this, as I very believe he hath in some other things of much greater importance.

The next morning I went to Kensington full of fear, but yet determined what was fit for me to do. I met the King coming out of his closet, and asking if his coach was ready. He took me aside, and I told him, that in obedience to his Majesty's command, I had considered of the thing as well as I could, and came to give him my answer. I perceived his Majesty was going out, and therefore desired him to appoint me another time, which he did on the Saturday morning after.

Then I came again, and he took me into his closet, where I told him, that I could not but have a deep sense of his Majesty's great grace and favour to me, not only to offer me the best thing he had to give, but to press it so earnestly

upon me. I said, I would not presume to argue 1690. the matter any farther, but I hoped he would give me leave to be still his humble and earnest petitioner to spare me in that thing. He answered, he would do so if he could, but he knew not what to do if I refused it. Upon that I told him, that I tendered my life to him, and did humbly devote it to be disposed of as he thought fit. He was graciously pleased to say, it was the best news had come to him this great while. I did not kneel down to kiss his hand, for without that I doubt I am too sure of it: but requested of him, that he would defer the declaration of it, and let it be a secret for some time. He said he thought it might not be amiss to defer it till the Parliament was up. I begged farther of him, that he would not make me a wedge to drive out the present Archbishop:<sup>1</sup> that some time before I was nominated, his Majesty would be pleased to declare in Council, that since his lenity had not had any better effect, he would wait no more, but would dispose of their places. This I told him I humbly desired, that I might not be thought to do anything harsh, or which might reflect upon me, for now that his Majesty had thought fit to advance me to this station, my reputation was become his interest. He said, he was sensible of it, and thought

<sup>1</sup> Sancroft, who was deprived on his refusal to take the oaths. Tillotson, says Burnet, was always looked upon by a large party as an usurper, and Sancroft as the real Archbishop.

1690, it reasonable to do as I desired. I craved leave of him to mention one thing more, which, in justice to my family, especially to my wife, I ought to do, that I should be more than undone by the great and necessary charge of coming into this place, and must, therefore, be an humble petitioner to his Majesty, that if it should please God to take me out of the world, that I must unavoidably leave my wife a beggar, he would not suffer her to be so; and that he would graciously be pleased to consider, that the widow of an Archbishop of Canterbury (which would now be an odd figure in England),<sup>1</sup> could not decently be supported by so little as would have contented her very well, if I had died a Dean. To this he gave a very gracious answer—I promise you to take care of her.<sup>2</sup>

Just as I had finished the last sentence, another very kind letter from your Ladyship was brought to me, wherein I find your tender concern for me, which I can never sufficiently acknowledge. But you say, the die is now cast, and I must now make the best I can of what I lately thought was the worst that could have happened to me. I thank God I am more cheerful than I expected,

<sup>1</sup> Only two, who had filled the see of Canterbury, had been married—Cranmer and Parker.

<sup>2</sup> King William granted Tillotson's widow an annuity of 600*l.*, and for-gave the first fruits; for the Archbishop left nothing to his family but the copy of his posthumous sermons, which was afterwards sold for 2,500 guineas. His widow died Jan. 20, 1701-2.

and comfort myself as I can with this hope, that 1690. the providence of God, to which I have submitted my own will in this matter, will graciously assist me to discharge, in some measure, the duty He hath called me to.

I did not acquaint my good friend, who wrote to you, with all that had passed, because it was intended to be a secret, which I am sure is safe in your hands. I only told him, that his Majesty did not intend, as yet, to dispose of this place: but when he did it, I was afraid it would be hard for me to escape.

The King, I believe, has only acquainted the Queen with it; as she came out of the closet on Sunday last, commanded me to wait upon her after dinner, which I did; and after she had discoursed about other business (which was to desire my opinion of a treatise sent her in manuscript out of Holland, tending to the reconciliation of our differences in England) she told me that the King had with great joy acquainted her with a secret concerning me, whereof she was no less glad; using many gracious expressions, and confirming his Majesty's promises concerning my wife.

But I am sensible this is an intolerable letter, especially concerning one's self.

I had almost forgot to mention Mr. Vaughan's<sup>1</sup> business. As soon as he brought your Ladyship's

<sup>1</sup> Probably a relation to Lady Russell, whose first husband was Lord Vaughan, eldest son to the Earl of Carbery.

1690. letter hither to me I wrote immediately to Whitehall, and got the business stopped.

The Bishop of St. David's<sup>1</sup> had written up for some minister of a great town, but a small living in that diocese, that it might be bestowed on him for his pains in that great town. The pretence is fair, but if the minister is no better a man than the Bishop, I am sure he is not worthy of it. I have been twice to wait on my Lord Nottingham about it, but missed of him. When I have inquired farther into it, if the thing be fit to be done I will do my best for Mr. Vaughan. And I beg of your Ladyship to make no difficulty of commanding my poor service upon any occasion, for I am always truly glad of the opportunity.

I cannot forbear to repeat my humble thanks for your great concernment for me in this affair.

That God would multiply his best blessings upon your Ladyship and your children, and make them great blessings and comforts to you, is the daily prayer of,

Madam,

Your most obliged humble servant,

J. T.

<sup>1</sup> Watson, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge (the see was vacant five years), Bishop of St. David's, was deprived for simony, 1699, by Archbishop Tennison. He took the oaths to King William, yet continued attached to King James.

LADY RUSSELL TO LADY RANELAGH.<sup>1</sup>

MADAM,

I have now before me yours of the 12th, and can 1690. read it with the same eagerness as when it came first to me, and so must anybody that you show so much favour to as to entertain them in the like manner. Every one is an instruction for a whole life, and a nourishment for many days; and indeed I had yet, I think, fed on it longer without exciting you to new trouble, the rather because my servant sent me word you had been more than ordinary indisposed, but, blessed be God, he says you are not so now. And therefore I submit, in order to the design I have to serve a very good Lady all I can, to trouble your Ladyship, and to consult you, if you please, in the matter. And I think you are never displeas'd on such occasions, more especially if you can have opportunity to be instrumental in effecting what does good to any. Now to my business.

We are told that Mr. Middleton is in a dying condition; his place in the Prize Office is worth about 400*l.* a year. It is, though, as I apprehend,

<sup>1</sup> Wife of Robert Jones, Earl of Ranelagh, a man of great parts and as great vices. He had the art of pleasing masters of very different tempers and interests, so much that he continued above thirty years in great posts, and was looked upon as one of the ablest men Ireland had bred.—Tindal.

1690. so only during a war, and so the less valuable ; however, Lady Ann Wingate would be contented if it could be obtained for Sir Francis. I believe Lady Anglesey<sup>1</sup> is the tenderer in the point, by reason Mrs. Middleton is so intimate a friend. And truly, though I am not so, I would not do so unworthily a thing as to solicit to her prejudice. But how it is so, if one desires to see a reversion be not granted to some other than our friend, I do not understand ; yet would certainly cease if I did. Your Ladyship will better know that than I do. But if it does her no wrong, I dare say you would most willingly gratify your friend Lady Anglesey and her daughter, in doing what can be for them ; and as such I address myself to your Ladyship, from whom I can ask no more than when you see Lord Devonshire to mention the thing to him, and your wishes in it ; and if you think fit, as a thing you know I offered to him, from my Lord Bedford and my own account ; though I know there will not want that to enforce when he knows your will in it, I know so well his respect to your Ladyship. However, Lord Bedford and myself would show our readiness to serve my Lady Anne and Sir Francis, and the more friends join will not recommend it less to my Lord Devonshire, if he can do anything in it.

I have written to him Lord Bedford's thoughts of

<sup>1</sup> Most probably, Elizabeth, daughter of John Earl, of Rutland, widow of James Earl of Anglesey.

Sir Francis ; which are, that he is an understanding 1690. honest gentleman ; and has almost exceeded any in this country in his zeal and activeness towards the present government.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO LORD DEVONSHIRE.

MY LORD,

Because I think all apologies are troublesome, I will not make any for sending you this paper, which comes to your Lordship with a joint request from my Lord Bedford and myself if you can befriend us in it. I know your Lordship needs not be pressed ; your own nature moves you to oblige petitioners as many as you can. The business is this : we hear that Mr. Middleton is very near dying ; he has a place in the Prize Office ; it is worth about 400*l.* a year. Sir Francis Wingate, a gentleman in this country, that married a daughter of Lady Anglesey, would fain succeed him : my Lord Bedford would most willingly gratify him if he could. The character he gives him, is, that he is an honest understanding gentleman, and has showed all the zeal, and good affection to the present government that is possible for any man to do with an activeness irreprovable.

My Lady Ranelagh will, I guess, let you see she is engaged in this matter, which I will say no more



1690. in ; but if it is in your Lordship's way to do him the courtesy, I shall be glad. If it is not, I shall be sorry for this trouble I have been engaged to give your Lordship, whose humble servant I am, for my whole life.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO MADAME ROUVIGNY.

DIEU nous a frappée, ma chère Madame, d'un coup qui nous paroît fort rude ; mais Dieu ne pense pas comme l'homme pense, et il faut croire qu'il ne prend pas plaisir à tourmenter ses pauvres créatures. Mais que songions-nous, que Dieu salût se détourner de son chemin en ses providences pour notre contentement. Non, assurément ; il faut nous supporter le mieux que nous puissions sur toutes sortes d'évènements, et vivre en espérance qu'un jour nous verrons plus clairement la raison de tous ses noirs dispensations qui nous attaquent qui nous touchent si vivement.

Madame, je ne combats pas votre vive douleur, vous le devez, à un fils, et à un homme si brave et si aimé ôté du monde.<sup>1</sup>

Il a aussi toutes sortes de consolations qu'on peut possible atteindre, en la manière de sa mort : en

<sup>1</sup> Mons. Rouvigny (eldest brother of De Rouvigny, Earl of Galway, extinct in 1723), a gallant officer, slain fighting under King William at the battle of the Boyne, July 1st, 1690.

toutes ses dernières actions, mon âme me fait fort espérer qu'il fut accepté, et que son âme se repose en le bras de cet Sauveur en qui il se reposoit avec tant de foy. Dieu veut, Madame, que vous et moy faisons nos devoirs en telle sorte que les accidents qui nous peuvent arriver ne nous detournent pas des sentiers de Dieu ; mais au contraire nous ayant à passer doucement les peu de jours qui nous restent devant que nous entrons dans ces délices éternelles qu'il nous prepare. Jusqu'à ce heureux moment,  
 Je suis, &c.

## LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

THERE is so much in those little sheets you sent me to thank you for, that, finding myself very ill-fitted to do it, I was tempted to let it quite alone till I made shift to consider that, for the most part, our temptations incline us to the worst things, and to the most forbidden tempers. This makes me rise from that listlessness I continually drop into till I have at least told you how sensible I am of your kindness on all occasions ; and I am sensible, too, how strong and pious all your offers of comfort to a disquieted mind are, and I hope that by often perusing them they will so affect me, that the effect shall correspond to your Christian wishes and prayers for me, and I shall obtain a better freedom of mind

1690. than I am mistress of at present, since you conjecture very truly, every new stroke to a weary, battered carcass makes me struggle the harder; and though I lost with my best friend all the delights of living, yet I find I did not a quick sense of new grief, for want of due considering, that whatever below God is the object of our love, will, at some time or other, be the matter of our sorrow. These two, my sister<sup>1</sup> and a dear sister's son,<sup>2</sup> began their course after me, but have ended it sooner. I would have had it otherwise, but I was vain and foolish in it. God knows where it is best to place his creatures. Your prayers are indeed of more use than your fears, for my health is good, but I love greatly the prayers of my friends that I may be resigned in the case of my children, for this trial has so experienced to me my sad weakness that I doubt myself, and humbly beg in mercy but not in judgment that I may be spared that trial.<sup>3</sup>

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.

I HAVE, my Lord, so upright an heart to my friends, that though your great weight of business had forced you to a silence of this kind, yet I should have had no doubt, but that one I so distin-

<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth, Countess of Montagu.

<sup>2</sup> Wriothealey Baptist, Earl of Gainsborough, died September, 1690.

<sup>3</sup> Conclusion wanting.

guished in that little number God has yet left me, 1690. does join with me 'to lament my late losses.'<sup>1</sup> The one was a just, sincere man, and the only son of a sister and a friend I loved with too much passion; the other my last sister, and I ever loved her tenderly.

It pleases me to think that she deserves to be remembered by all those that knew her. But, after above forty years' acquaintance with so amiable a creature, one must needs, in reflecting, bring to remembrance so many engaging endearments as are yet at present embittering and painful; and indeed we may be sure, that when anything below God is the object of our love, at one time or another it will be a matter of our sorrow. But a little time will put me again into my settled state of mourning; for a mourner I must be all my days upon earth, and there is no need I should be other. My glass runs low; the world does not want me, nor I want that; my business is at home, and within a narrow compass. I must not deny, as there was something so glorious in the object of my biggest sorrow, I believe that in some measure kept me from being then overwhelmed. So now it affords me, together with the remembrance how many easy years we lived together, thoughts that are joy enough for one, who looks no higher than a quiet submission to her lot, and such pleasures in educating the young

<sup>1</sup> The deaths of the Earl of Gainsborough and Lady Montagu mentioned in the previous letter.

1690. folks as surmounts the cares that it will afford. If I shall be spared the trial, where I have most thought of being prepared to bear the pain, I hope I shall be thankful, and I think I ask it faithfully, that it may be in mercy, not in judgment. Let me rather be tortured here, than they or I be rejected in that other blessed peaceful home to all ages, to which my soul aspires. There is something in the younger going before me, that I have observed all my life to give a sense I cannot describe; it is harder to be borne than a bigger loss, where there has been spun out a longer thread of life. Yet I see no cause for it, for every day we see the young fall with the old; but methinks it is a violence upon nature.

A troubled mind has a multitude of these thoughts. Yet I hope I master all murmurings; if I have had any, I am sorry, and will have no more, assisted by God's grace; and rest satisfied that, whatever I think, I shall one day be entirely satisfied what God has done and shall do, will be best, and justify both his justice and mercy. I meant this as a very short epistle; but you have been some years acquainted with my infirmity, and have endured it, though you never had waste time, I believe, in your life; and better times do not, I hope, make your patience less. However it will become me to put an end to this, which I will do, signing myself cordially

Oct 16, 1690.

Your, &c.

## LADY RUSSELL TO LORD CAVENDISH.

THOUGH I know my letters do Lord Cavendish no 1690. service, yet as a respect I love to pay him, and to thank him also for his last from Limbeck, I had not been so long silent, if the death of two persons, both very near and dear to me, had not made me so uncomfortable to myself, that I knew I was utterly unfit to converse where I would never be ill company. The separation of friends is grievous. My sister Montagu was one I loved tenderly; my Lord Gainsborough was the only son of a sister I loved with too much passion. They both deserved to be remembered kindly by all that knew them. They both began their race long after me, and I hope should have ended it so too; but the great and wise Disposer of all things, and who knows where it is best to place his creatures, either in this or in the other world, has ordered it otherwise. The best improvement we can make in these cases, and you, my dear Lord, rather than I, whose glass runs low, whilst you are young, and I hope have many happy years to come, is, I say, that we should all reflect there is no passing through this to a better world, without some crosses; and the scene sometimes shifts so fast, our course of life may be ended, before we think we have gone half way; and that a happy eternity depends on our spending well or ill that time allotted us here for probation.

1690. Live virtuously my Lord, and you cannot die too soon, nor live too long. I hope the last shall be your lot, with many blessings attending it.

Your, &c.

Oct. 29, 1690.

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LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

THOUGH your letter to me, which I now answer, was written from Windsor, 25th January, yet was not read by me till very lately; for it happening to come in a time I was under some more than ordinary discomposure of mind, it was not given into my hand, at least I knew it not, but laid it (or, as I believe, my servants laid it for me) in a place I used to put things out of my pocket into, and happened not to regard it in several days, or I would have said something upon it a little sooner, being through God's goodness in a great measure relieved from my fear for my poor boy, who, on Tuesday was se'nnight, had so violent a cough, that in a day after, it gave suspicions of some other ill attending it. Measles I thought most likely; and spots did appear on Thursday, and so high, with such an aspect, that the doctor thought it the small-pox. On Friday he was so sick and so ill, I sent for more doctors, and three of them feared it the small-pox, and if so, of the worst that could be, but they said till Sunday they could not be

positive. It pleased God they saw enough on 1690. Saturday night to ease my heart so much as to assure me it was the measles. He has gone on very well since, and is now past the measles themselves, and I hope will in a little time be so of the ill consequences which often follow that disease: his cough is still remaining, and will now, I believe, till he purges or bleeds. I trust that as I have had grace to ask it, so his life is granted me in mercy and not in judgment.

As to your affairs, they stand as they did, for many reasons; I went that very Tuesday my child fell ill, to have seen the Queen, in order a day or two after to have seen the Princess; but it so fell out I saw neither, and must not for awhile; neither have I seen the Dean<sup>1</sup> since you went the last time: he had a severe cold upon him, and said he would go into the country for air. Your information concerning the Dean, I believe in part to be true, but not in the whole; as thus: I believe the Dean thinks it is fit Mr. Hartlib should be considered; but never pitched on this, or that, only that he should have something, but did not recommend him to this; and I conclude so far, from this reason, that when Dr. Sharp spoke to the Lord Nottingham, to desire so much as to know whether he had spoke to the King in such an one's behalf or not, that he might recommend such an one (Jekyl by name), or whether he would think fit to do

<sup>1</sup> Of St. Paul's, Dr. Tillotson.



1691. it at all?—his answer was, it was out of his hand : it lay between the King and the Dean, for Hartlib had been recommended, and the Dean of St. Paul's had put in a caveat.

Now if the Dean had recommended the man, he might then at the same time have obtained the condition, and not put in a caveat. So I do not go upon what the Dean says, but what I gather elsewhere ; though I faithfully believe anything he says to be true. As to Mr. Jekyl, he speaks as well of him as you can do yourself ; but whether he will labour to put by Mr. Hartlib, that he may be recommended, I cannot tell ; when I see him I will do all I can to serve you, if it goes his way. I dare be confident he will take a due care you shall not be put upon anything that will be a contradiction to your circumstances.

As to the Prebendary, I know not what to say to it. If you are not obliged to swear, why should you not modestly represent the matter where it will be understood ? though I would advise you to be cautious, and make sure of something first, if that can be.

I am sorry you jar so with a prelate that I am sure was tender towards you, in the beginning of this Government, and you believed it, and there was good reason to do so ; but it seems he did something afterwards contrary to the first beginnings, which I am also sorry for, and wish you would soften (for your own sake) as much as you

can. You must needs think, Doctor, that the pro-1691. vocation the Bishop of Ely<sup>1</sup> has given, does you no service, every one knowing your intimacy there; yet as there is no reason you should, so I assure myself you will not suffer from it. But, on the other hand, you should be a little more wary: one should be wise, though harmless as doves. You may remember Lord Carmarthen said you was too late; which looks as if he knew the business: and yet the Dean and he are not great, that is, I mean the Dean is not his creature, though he may, and has, I believe, a respect for him; but his affairs lie in another way than to call him to be often where he is. If you saw how many walks I fetch to my boy in a day, you would think I have done a great work to scribble all this, from

Your friend and servant.

Feb. 5, 1690-1.

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ARCHBISHOP TILLOTSON TO LADY RUSSELL.

June 23, 1691.<sup>2</sup>

HONOURED MADAM,

I received your Ladyship's letter, together with that to Mr. Fox, which I shall return to him on

<sup>1</sup> Francis Turner, deprived for not taking the oaths. Burnet mentions him as being concerned in the plan to bring back King James during King William's absence at the Hague.—Hist. vol. iv. p. 119. Ox. 1823.

<sup>2</sup> From his draught in short-hand.

1691. Wednesday morning, when I have desired Mr. Kemp to send him to me.

I entreat you to give my very humble service to my Lord of Bedford, and to let his Lordship know how far I have been concerned in this affair. I had notice first from Mr. Attorney-General<sup>1</sup> and Mr. Solicitor,<sup>2</sup> and then from my Lord \_\_\_\_\_, that several persons, upon the account of publishing and dispersing several libels against me, were secured in order to prosecution. Upon which I went to wait upon them severally, and earnestly desired of them that nobody might be punished upon my account. That this was not the first time I had experience of this kind of malice, which, how unpleasant soever to me, I thought it the wisest way to neglect, and the best to forgive it.<sup>3</sup> None of them said anything to me of my Lord Russell, nor did it ever come into my thought to hinder any prosecution upon his account, whose reputation, I can truly say, is much dearer to me than mine own; and I was much more troubled at the barbarous usage done to his memory, and especially since they have aggravated it by dispersing more copies; and, as I find by the letter to Mr. Fox, are supported in their insolence by a strong combination, I cannot

<sup>1</sup> Sir George Treby, afterwards Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

<sup>2</sup> John Somers, afterwards Lord Somers.

<sup>3</sup> Upon a bundle of libels found among his papers after his death, he put no other inscription than this:—"These are libels; I pray God forgive the authors; I do."—Sherlock.

but think it very fit for my Lord Bedford to bring 1691. them to condign punishment.

Twice last week I had my pen in my hand to have provoked you to a letter; and that I might once in my life have been beforehand, with you in this way of kindness. I was both times hindered by the breaking in of company upon me. The errand of it would have been to have told you that, whether it be from stupidity, or from a present astonishment at the danger of my condition, or from some other cause, I find that I bear the burden I dreaded so much a good deal better than I could have hoped. David's acknowledgment to God runs in my mind, "Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto? and hast regarded me according to the estate of a man of high degree, O Lord God."<sup>1</sup> I hope that the same providence of God, which hath once overruled me in this thing, will some way or other turn it to good.

The Queen's extraordinary favour to me, to a degree much beyond my expectation, is no small support to me; and I flatter myself with hopes that my friends will continue their kindness to me; especially that the best friend I ever had will not be the less so to me now that I need friends most.

I pray to God continually to preserve you and yours, and particularly at this time, to give my Lady Cavendish a happy meeting with her Lord,

<sup>1</sup> 1 Chron. xvii. 16, 17.

1691. and to grant them both a long and happy life together.

I am, Madam,  
Your most faithful and humble servant,  
Jo. CANT.

LADY RUSSELL TO HER CHILDREN.<sup>1</sup>

MY DEARE CHILD,

I write ys upon the 21<sup>st</sup> of July 91—a day of sad remembrances to me it being that whereon your excelent father was taken from us with much severity to my lasting sorrow, & yr losse.

I have not yet omitted on ys day (but when prevented by sickness) to humble & afflict my selfe under the mighty hand of God, pouring out my soul before Him in prayer & fasting.

As, first to testifie my humiliation for al my sins, for my having ofended God in so many & so frequent breaches of my baptismal vow, my Sacrament vows, and al those vows, I have at any other time

<sup>1</sup> This most interesting letter was found in the year 1850, on the examination of some papers of the Marquis of Rockingham, at Rockingham Castle, by the late Hon. Richard Watson. That gentleman presented it to the Duke of Bedford, with a hope that it might appear in a new edition of Lady Russell's letters. Any comment on the letter would be superfluous. It has been judged best that it should be an exact facsimile of the original; and it is, therefore, not altered as the other letters have been, in conformity to the custom of the present day.

My Deare Child, I write ys upon the 25. of July 91. a day of sad  
remembrance to me it being that whereyn your excellent father was taken  
from us with most tenacity to my last day tomorrow & in hope  
I shall not yet omitted on ys day (that when presented by his grace) so humble  
& affect my selfe under the mighty hand of god, pouring out my soul before  
him in prayer & fasting  
As first to beseech my familiar for at my sins, for my having of fond-  
ned God in to make & do frequent breaches of my baptismal vow, my  
sacrament vows and all those vows, I have at any other time made  
of a better & more strict obedience to all his holy Commandments.

The Reverse of the hand writing of Rachel Lady Carleton.



made of a better & more strict obedience to al his 1691. holy comandments.

I recolect as wel as I can what they have bin—and make my resolutions to do better for the time to come—and, as a help to my memory, I did now look over som notes I had by me of som former examination; at other times I have done it by considering all the pasages of my life which I have by me, noted in a paper after the same manner I set yours downe, & gave it you when you first received the Sacrament.

And as I ame humbled for my owne sins, so I ame likewise for the sins of the family, which may have caused so heavy a judgment on it, as the taking your father from us (by so uncomon a way) seemes to us to be.

I pray that my zeal & devotion in religious dutys may be quickned yt I may have true sence of my duty to God & man, with an encrease of grace to my live's end.

This is the spiritual good I aske. and the same petition I make for you all, with as much fervour as I ame capable of

the temporal good I aske & pray for is to blesse the family he has so gratly chastised (he has said he wod punish to the third & fourth generation but have mercy upon thousands) I pray that it may henceforth, be prosperous & exemplary in Vertue, that ther sins may not keep back mercies from the family, but ther piety obtaine



1691. blessings on it—that you, my children may have healthful bodys, & good understandings, and be happy under your several circumstances, also to lengthen your days upon earth as a blessing & not in judgment.

I also pray that I may do my duty in that state of life he has put me in & most especialy towards you my children, & to be so blest in my endevers that you may all be fruitful in good works to your lives end, and also enjoy a competency of this worlds goods—also that I may be fitted for all his determinations, & to som degree cheerfully resigned — I pray for all mankind, & in perticuler as the present circumstances require

I do also as neer as I can recolect al Gods signal mercies to me & mine; & bless & praise him for them

Doctor patrick's book of prayers (caled ye devout Christian) furnished me now—his large form of devotion page 477<sup>1</sup> has both thanksgiving and confession in it.

After my time spent thus; and reading two sermons that the then Doctor Burnet<sup>2</sup> preached before

<sup>1</sup> The Hearts' Ease; or a Remedy against all Troubles," with a consolatory Discourse to prevent immoderate Grief for the loss of Friends. Lond. 1671. 8vo.

<sup>2</sup> Two sermons before the Lord William Russell, in Newgate, July 20, 1683, the day before he suffered. Rev. xiv. 13, "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours: and their works do follow them."—Psalm xxiii. 4, "Yea, though

yr father the day before he died, and also those 1691.  
 sheets of paper that he writ for me, what had  
 hapened in discourse between them, you will sure  
 my child beleve that all I say proceeds from a heart  
 & mind put into as good a frame & temper as I  
 can bring them to & consequently as free from al  
 undue pasions & partialitye; ful of good will to  
 all mankind & especialy to all good soules, having  
 truly endeavored to set al right, betweene God & my  
 own soule—and beleve me the doing so faithfully  
 afords a tranquility & a quiet within that is not to  
 be expresed. And yet I must own yt the reading  
 Docter Burnet's papers as they must bring fresh be-  
 fore my eyes such sad scenes as to my own particu-  
 lar condition upon earth, so I can't say I ame with-  
 out sorowful thoughts, but not murmuring ones I  
 hope, I pray that they may not be such and indeed  
 it is a mighty help to me, that they should not be  
 so, the reasonable ground I have to hope your  
 dear father is happy in a better state, that posibly  
 his violent death, might be his punishment for the  
 errours of his life, & he is now comforted & joy-  
 ful to all Eternity, past al the toyles and tempta-  
 tions, and snares and labours of this short life;  
 which is our day of exercise probation and tryal,  
 fur that to come. O Blessed state where I have ful  
 but humble hope to meet againe never to part any  
 more, tho the weakest & unworthyst of God's ser-

I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for  
 thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

1691. vants, but we serve a god is pityful and gracious, he knows our frames, & has ye compations of a father; and wil allow for such failings as are incident to humane frailty, when he sees our hearts sencere; if our conscience do not condemne us, & accept us & give us safe & free accesse into his presence; tho our conquest of sin be not compleat, yet our resolutions & endeavors must be to mortifie it in every kind; som wil carefully refrain in som sins, but be indulgent, to others, be strict, in som dutys, but loose and slack in others; as if they hop't to ex-piate the one by the other, but this wil make us liable to inward rebuke, & to open confusion at the last: St. Paul says twas his daily practice to have a conscience void of offence towards God & towards man, and the psalmist says, if I regard iniquity in my heart the lord wil not hear my praier.

And now my child beleve your mother, ther is, nothing now in this world can touch me very sorely but my childrens consernes (bating religion) and altho I love your bodys but too wel, yet if my heart deceve me not tis as nothing in comparison of your more pretious souls. When I have the least jealousy that any of you, have ill inclinations, or not so good as I wod, gladly have them, or feare that you tread tho' never so little out of the right path O, how it pierces my soul in fear & anguish for yours—if you love or beare any respect for the memory of your father do not endanger a sepa-

ration from him & me in the next life. but infinitely 1691.  
 above al other argument, is this; that we should  
 not be ungrateful, to that god, that made us, &  
 preserves us; made us be born into this world, that  
 we might be capable of a life to all Eternity, wher  
 innocense & happynes last for ever; to this place of  
 joy and blisse, this is our pasage and is to som a  
 more rugged than tis to others, for wise ends, by  
 providence hid from us now, but when we shal have  
 put of these tabernacles of clay, our clarified spirits  
 shal then understand, and admire, adore, & love,  
 the wisdome & power & love of God to his crea-  
 tures, how lovely wil the beauty of providence be  
 to us then, tho now that we see but the dark side  
 of the cloud, tis often very black & gloomy to us.  
 remember my child & often turn in your mind al  
 god's benefits as far as you are able to recount  
 them, remember his sending his son to die for our  
 sakes; his leaving us an example howe we should  
 lead our lives — what is leading a holy life, you  
 find in the Bible, be constant in the reading of it,  
 & use yrselfe to make som use of what you read  
 before you lay away the boók, consider what vertue  
 is recomended or what vice is forbid, or what doc-  
 trine is taught in that chapter you have there read,  
 & think on it often the rest of the day, and doing  
 thus you wil in a little while make it habitual to  
 you, and when you are once wel read in the holy  
 scripture & have wel learned your duty, twil then be  
 alwayes about you. get by heart the sermon on the

1691. Mount: 5. 6. 7 chap. of St. Mathew. the 17 of St John is also a fine chap: to get by heart, so is 8 to rom: the 19 & 37. psal: & the 7 penitential ones.

When you goe to bed before you kneel to pray—think a while what has passed that day, and confesse, & blesse god accordingly—again in the morning think what is to be done, that day, that you can foresee, and arme yourselfe accordingly—and doing that, if you should be cut of by sudden death, you have as (it) were but one day to answer for

I wil tel you what I do in these perticulers.

My method is this  
 night & morning before I kneel to pray. I consider what has passed that day; what I have done, & what left undone; or if any perticuler providence has befallen me—and then as I hinted before I confesse & bless God accordingly in my praiers.

I carry about me a little piece of paper, and writ in it æither at night or in ye morning (if not prevented) to this effect—Saturday. I took some care to day or i was fauty so & so to day—this makes one have a better watch & guard over ons selfe al that day.

And then upon Friday morning, when I have prayd my usual daily prayers (which have bin most constantly for many years those in taler's holy living<sup>1</sup>) before I pray that of intercession pa: 35. I stop—and look upon my dayly notes for that

<sup>1</sup> Jeremy Taylor's "Holy Living." The editions of this celebrated work are so numerous as to render it difficult to point out the references.

weeke, I recolect my fautes ; consider what care i 1691, have taken to corect or forsake them—but alas when we do best we shal find enof to be humbled for—therefore I chuse som prayer of confesion most times that in talor's holy living page 302. when I have done it, I make my resolutions to do better for ye time to come, and especially to watch myselfe where i ame most apt to fal, naming in what I ame so—then I pray som prayer for grace to keep these promises of better obedience—as in pa : 31 — for grace to spend our time wel, or page 271. for the grace of faith, hope & charity. then I pray the dayly prayer of intercession that i left of at in pa : 35—after this I praise God for al his blessings to me & all mankind—on these days I do most times the thanksgiving in the comon prayer book, & after these words (loving kindness to us & to al men) I stop & say ; perticularly for al the blessings vouchsafed to me, both spiritual & temporal—as that I was born of Christian parents, not suffered to be strangled in the womb, that I was baptized, and sence, educated in Christian Religion, I blesse thee for al checks of Conscience I have had especially those I have profited by—then I proceed to name temporal mercies and deliverances especially of ye weeke, if nothing yt is remarkable has happened, however, i bless him for preserving me & mine that week to that time of it. and then I goe on, I bless thee for our creation preservation &c.—close with ye Lords praier.

1691. Now when I have done. I take my paper & consider, what I have been most faulty in this week—as wandering in prayer—or negligent in reading—or passionate—or envious, or what else. I set it downe (in as few words as I can) at the foot of my daily notes for that weeke; and so that is an abridgment for the whole weeke. Saturday morning begins the next weeke

And upon the first Friday in every month, or the last. just before I use my confession—I look upon my notes & consider the actions of the whole month, if nothing but comon has happened the less examination will suffice; only I take care so to recollect as may represent any thing that is remarkable or great, either to be matter of sorrow, or thanksgiving (for other things a general care is proportionable) and make my resolutions accordingly—& when I have done my devotions, I set downe in a book (I have to that purpose) at the weekes of that month, as I have made an abridgment of them. & then I tear my piece of paper & take a new one for the next month.

This gets on a habit of a constant watchfulness; and at sacrament times or at any other time that I would examine myselfe, I find it a great helpe to read this. It saves much time in looking back, and our thoughts are lesse distracted, and makes our lives more easie to us when we see how we live from one sacrament to another.

And this makes Religion easie, & the mind quiet

& ful of tranquility, and tho it may seeme a 1691. hard task at first, yet a little use makes it none, tho if it be; for flesh & blood is apt to draw back at the times of devotion, & especialy at such like exercise, yet if it help us to live more innocently, & to state things more reverently & usefully, betweene God & our souls, no pains is to much but on the contrary, doing thus wil upon tryal (I speak it by experience) be found lesse paines to such as meane to be serious in religion; & do desire to do thee duty wel & with chearfulness; and is hugely more satisfying to the mind, then a more carlesse loose way of living is, and no settled method.

pray do not (without good cause) neglect to pray before you goe out of yr chamber and read a chapter, and let it be your custome also, to read in som good book more or less as your time is (but without scruple) but asure yrselfe tis good to accustome yourselfe to read, tho it be but a leafe or two, and likewise to retire in the afternoons. talor has devotions to this purpose: pa: 39.

Get also ejaculations by heart for divers times in the day, see patrick pa: 274.

On Sunday see patrick. 198 before church, or talor 302. In the afternoone (if I can) I faile not to retire—and use most times, the beginning in talor pa: 306 or (as when my time is short, patrick pa: 35—then I pray god to accept my praises, and forgive my sins of my whole life—the breaches of my baptismal vow, my sacramental vows, and al those



1691. resolutions i have made at any other time of my life of a better obedience—then i pray such prayers as I chuse out of talor or patrick, or any other book i like or have by me, and in my own words pray for any perticuler grace or thing I want, & may lawfully or wisely desire for myselfe or frind.

this is the method i have observed for many yeares tho weakly & with great imperfections performed, at al times. You have a little book writ by talor caled the golden grove;<sup>1</sup> out of that & his book of holy living I took derections many years agoe. som interruptions in this course I have bin tempted to, but god in infinit grace to me, by som sicknes or other crosse, brought me back to my duty againe. when your too wel loved father died, I was then indeed very strongly tempted to be lesse in reading or prayer, that having befallen me, i had soe earnestly prayed might not, but in som time, by god's grace (which he gives to them that aske it in faithfulness) I overcame that wile of the devil, and considered, why should god alter the course of his providence to make me longer hapie in this world, it may be his dying workt towards great ends of providence; it might be that his untimely death, might be punishment for his sins; or those of his family, and after death he is Blessed for ever more. God has said he wil punish to the third & fourth

<sup>1</sup> The "Golden Grove" was written by Taylor during his residence at the seat so called of Lord Vaughan, Earl of Carbery, in Wales; the father of the first husband of Lady Russell.

generation but have mercy upon thousands; but we 1691.  
 must obtaine this mercy, & avert his judgments by  
 our careful walking in his wayes. My bisness is to  
 profit by this sore affliction, to seek fer patience ra-  
 ther then comfort, & to learne to weane my selfe  
 from loving so passionately any blessing in this  
 world, which as I have observed before our living in  
 it is our day of exersion probation & tryal for the  
 imployment of Heaven. And I can safely say I  
 have dismissed al the esteemed delights of it, sence  
 that stroke, nay, I may add al the innocent plea-  
 sures of life I lost with him; but I take that to  
 be a faute; & perhaps is a punishment to me for  
 loving a creature too much, tis a sort of idolatry;  
 but stil I feele my soul to sorely touched when any  
 of you my children are il, I pray & strive al I can  
 against it.

And now my dear child I have but little more to  
 add except to put you in mind to remember this  
 life at longest is but short, & how short none can  
 tel, but if you live crosses wil come, and pleasures  
 wear away—strive to get gospel evedence of ye  
 being a child of god, & having a title to the pro-  
 mises of eternal life, I cal gospel evedence the being  
 able to take my hopes of being saved, by my sen-  
 cere endeavours I use to live up to the rule of the  
 Bible, therefore read it carefully al your life, learn  
 som of it by heart, som I have named.

Tis this beleve me my deare child, tis the wit-  
 nesse of an honest & good life in the day of trou-

1691. ble & distresse, no refreshment then but in a well founded hope to enjoy a happy eternity. and to what a degree that calmes and sweetens the most bitter sorrows is inconceivable by such as have not felt it, as i blesse god i have ever sence I could get over the astonishment so great & so sudden a blow; when I ame cast downe with som sad reflections what I have lost, I do as soon as I can sum my thoughts to consider that in a short time I shal leave this world & go to a place, when I shal see him who died for me; I shal then know much of the reason of al these providences we do now so little understand, and think so severe. I shal meet al my pious frinds againe, and what a joy wil it be to feele continual springs of pleasure, a perpetual & entire quiet in our own minds, no sicknes, no bad appetite, no passion shal remaine in us, but a constant joy in being extremely good; and that the sence that this wil be perpetual must add a freshness to that fulnes of joy which could not be entire if we did not foresee, wod be endlesse. O Blessed longed for day; yet I am wiling to continue for your good (i think so) but if that care were over, tis very likely flesh and blood wod find som other reason. to be wiling to continue, nature shrinks at the separation of soul and body, & ther is a love of living implanted in our natures, and how wel is it that it is so to helpe us to endure the crosses and the toyles and labours of life, yet I can think of this day of death with sweet refreshment & tis pleasant-

ness to my thoughts. O my beloved children take 1691.  
 care we meet againe do but experience the pleasure  
 of a wel spent life, & the pure delights of meditat-  
 ing on the future state of Eternity. that you may do  
 so, & love it, to my last breath you wil have the  
 praiers of a truly loving mother: consider my deare  
 that al the inosent delights of life you may take and  
 no axietie of mind with it; but if they shut out  
 religious thoughts and performances, & devour &  
 take up al our time; then indeed we sin; and con-  
 science wil sting at som time or other, and be a sore  
 remembrancer; and check us in our gaietie. but be  
 devout & reguler in your dutys to god—heaven wil  
 be secure, and pleasures innosent.

## LADY RUSSELL TO ARCHBISHOP TILLOTSON.

IN wants and distresses of all kinds one naturally  
 flies to a sure friend, if one is blessed with any  
 such. This is the reason of the present address  
 to you, which is burdened with this request, if  
 you think it fit, to give the enclosed to the Queen.  
 My letter is a petition to her Majesty, to bestow  
 upon a gentleman a place that is now fallen by the  
 death of Mr. Herbert; it is Auditor of Wales,  
 value about 400*l.* a year. He is, if I do not  
 extremely mistake, fit for it, and worthy of it; he  
 is Knight of the Shire for Carmarthenshire: it

1691. would please me on several accounts, if I obtain it. Now everything is so soon chopped upon and gone, that a slow way would defeat me, if nothing else does; and that I fear from Lord Devonshire if he was in town: besides, I should not so distinctly know the Queen's answer, and my success, as I shall I know do by your means, if you have no scruple to deliver my letter; if you have, pray use me as I do you, and in the integrity of your heart tell me so. I could send it to Lady Darby; it is only the certainty of some answer makes me pitch as I do. Nay, perhaps it were more proper to send it to the Queen's Secretary; but I am not versed in the court ways, it is so lately since I have loved them. Therefore be free, and do as you think most fit.

I intend not to detain you long; but the many public and signal mercies we have of late received are so reviving, notwithstanding the black and dismal scenes which are constantly before me, and particularly on these sad months, I must feel the compassions of a wise and good God, to these late sinking nations, and to the Protestant interest all the world over, and all good people also. I raise my spirit all I can, and labour to rejoice in the prospect of more happy days, for the time to come, than some ages have been blessed with. The goodness of those instruments God has called forth, to work this great work by, swells ones hopes.

July 24, 1691.

## LADY RUSSELL TO QUEEN MARY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

I humbly beg leave to address myself to your 1691. Majesty, and to say this truth, that it is a very sensible trouble to me, when I do importune your Majesty; yet I do sometimes submit, because I would not be quite useless to such as hope for some benefit by my means, and I desire to do what good I can.

I know your Majesty feels that life is a labour to the highest: but, Madam, you are blessed with a portion of goodness big enough to be content with it, in order to serve those ends of Providence which are certainly wise and good, though dark to the inhabitants of the earth.

I do, in all humility, ask pardon for my request on the behalf of Mr. Richard Vaughan, that he may succeed Colonel Herbert (lately killed in Ireland) as Auditor of Wales. He is a lawyer, a Welchman, and so well esteemed of in his country, that he serves as Knight of the Shire for Carmarthenshire.<sup>1</sup> I believe him every way fit for the office, or I should not do so much for him, since I think it a great matter to disquiet your Majesty in this kind, and could with more joy

<sup>1</sup> Related to Lady Russell's first husband. He was not knight of the shire, but represented the town of Carmarthen.

1691. pay a considerable duty to your Majesty, than receive a profit for myself or friend; but my meanness and my misfortunes are a bar to all such hopes.

I pray God still to direct and prosper your Majesty, preserve the person of the King, and bless with success all his designs, and so complete his blessing and compassions to all good people all the world over. The late public mercies fills with hopes

Your Majesty's

Most humble, most dutiful,

And most faithful subject.

July 25, 1691.

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QUEEN MARY TO LADY RUSSELL.

I AM sorry my Lady Russell knows me so little, or judges so wrong of the kindness I have for her, to think she needs make an excuse for writing to me. I shall never think it a trouble to hear from you, and should be very glad to do what you desire; but as I was wholly unacquainted with the place, and believe there is no great haste in the filling it, so I left all who spoke to me at liberty to write for themselves; so that it is likely the King may have disposed of it before I could let him know your desire. If it comes time enough,

I am persuaded he will be as willing to please you 1691.  
in it as I am myself.

You are very much in the right to believe I have cause enough to think this life not so fine a thing as it may be others do ; that I lead at present (besides the pain I am almost continually in for the King), it is so contrary to my own inclination, that it can be neither easy nor pleasant ; but I see one is not ever to live for one's self. I have had many years of ease and content, and was not so sensible of my own happiness as I ought, till I lost it ; but I must be content with what it pleases God ; and this year have reason to praise Him hitherto for the successes in Ireland, the news of which came so quick upon one another, that made me fear we had some ill to expect from other places ; but I trust in God that will not be, though it looks as if we must hope for little good either from Flanders or sea. The King continues, God be praised, very well ; and though I tremble at the thoughts of it, yet I cannot but wish a battle well over ; and for that at sea, I wish it as heartily as Mr. Russell himself.

I have heard nothing all this while of your petition, which I am sorry for, wishing for any occasion to show how really I am, and always shall be

Your very affectionate friend,

MARIE R.

Whitehall, July 30, 1691.



LADY RUSSELL TO LADY (SUPPOSED) ALINGTON.<sup>1</sup>

1691. My dear sister, I have not yet had resolution to speak to you this way, nor know I now what to say. Your misfortune is too big to hope that anything I offer can allay the present rage of your sorrow. I pray for you, and I pity you, which is all I can do; and that I do most feelingly, not knowing how soon your case may be mine; and I want from you, what I would most willingly furnish you with—some consolation and truce from your extreme lamentation.

I hope that by this time your reason begins to get a power over your wasted spirits, and that you will let nature relieve herself. She will do it, if you do not obstruct her. There is a time and period for all things here. Nature will first prevail, but as soon as we can, we must think what is our duty, and pursue it as well as we are able. I beseech God to teach you to submit to this unlooked for, and in appearance sadly severe, Providence, and endue you with a quiet spirit, to wait for the day of consolation, when joy will be our portion to all eternity: in that day we shall meet again all our pious friends; all that have

<sup>1</sup> It is very doubtful whether this letter was written to Lady Alington. In the MSS. at Woburn there are several from this lady to Mr. Thornton: no mention is made of her daughter's death; nor does the peerage mention the occurrence.

died in their innocence, and with them live a life 1691.  
of innocence and purity and gladness for ever. Fit  
your thoughts with these undoubted truths, my  
dear sister, as much and as often as is possible.  
I know no other cure for such diseases: nor shall  
we miss one, if we endeavour, with God's grace  
assisting, which He certainly gives to such as ask.  
God give you refreshments. I am,

Your, &c.

Oct. 10, 1691.

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LADY RUSSELL TO MR. OWEN.

SIR,

How welcome the question I have to ask you  
will be, I know not, but I am much mistaken if  
the answer be not to my satisfaction.

I have had advice, and that but very lately, that  
my Lord Cavendish's friends intends to set him up  
for Westminster. He is come over, and now with  
me. I know you were invited by your friends  
to stand, and therefore suppose you have had an  
intent to do so. How far you are engaged, I  
know not, nor how strong you find your interest.  
I do very well remember you asked me to speak  
to my Lord Bedford for his; I did it, and his  
answer was, he wished you a Parliament-man with  
all his heart, because he thought you would vote  
well for your country; but having appeared for

1691. Phil. Howard, he did not care to be forward in opposing him if he stood. Now I have heard nothing of your concerns since this, and my Lord Bedford was so favourable in the matter, that he meant to move no way in it, till now he understands that Lord Cavendish looks after it. You may believe he cordially assists him: Lord Clare does so too, who else assisted Mr. Bridgman, but he now wants none, having submitted to a signification given him not to pretend to stand if Lord Cavendish did, it being of great concernment that he should not be baffled. Sir Stephen Fox thinks no more of it neither, for as soon as Lord Cavendish was named, he gave it up.<sup>1</sup> Now, Mr. Owen, if you can think fit to give an example, and declare you wish Lord Cavendish well in this thing, and as much as you can, give your interest to him. I find it is believed all others who have pretensions will do so too, except Bonithon, who I hear intends to stand it out to the last, upon a pure Tory interest; therefore I would fain have it come to a fair trial of skill between the two parties, which it cannot so well do, if Lord Cavendish be not singly at the head of one of them, and that I reckon he will be if you desist. And, indeed, it would be too great a gratification to the Tories to recover at Westminster what they have so lately lost in the city, I mean their credit in elections.

<sup>1</sup> In the Parliament 1689-90, Sir Stephen Fox was Member for Westminster, and in 1695; in the latter Lord Cavendish was Member for Derby.

Now, Mr. Owen, I should be glad of your <sup>1691.</sup> opinion honestly in this matter; you must think that I am greatly concerned in it, and perhaps depended on in relation to you, who are more my acquaintance than you are to any of Lord Devonshire's family. I would by no means in the world have my Lord Cavendish contest in this matter and lose it, now at his first entrance into the world; but the good will of so many persons of quality and so approved of by his Majesty is not to be neglected neither; and I believe the good his father did in the House of Commons, when he was Lord Cavendish, will be of advantage to this. And it will not hurt his interest that he is married to my Lord Russell's daughter.

All these things you can weigh much juster than I can lay them before you; and you know your strength, and what may weaken it, if you please to consider it, and when you have done so, if you resolve to oppose us, tell me ingenuously as much, and if you please, your reasons against my Lord's standing, and for your own, it will oblige,

Sir,

Yours, &c.

Oct. 23, 1691.

## LADY RUSSELL TO QUEEN MARY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

1691. The King's safe return into England is so great a subject for rejoicing, with all the other mercies of this year, as it gives me courage to take upon me to congratulate to your Majesty so blessed and so desired a providence, most especially to yourself, and then to all your people, that the intolerable temper of envy and faction does not influence: blessed be God that their fault becomes their punishment.

My mind being, as it ought to be, as full of the present public joy as I am capable of, I am unwilling to put anything in this paper that is of little moment, or looks like a particular interest. But, because I am very tender of multiplying these kind of troubles to your Majesty, and am also encouraged from your being pleased to take notice I had not presented my petition, that I had humbly asked leave to do, I have at last put it into my Lady Darby's<sup>1</sup> hands to present to your Majesty if you give leave. I could not before now get it done fit (as I thought) to shew to your Majesty; and now I have, considering the King's coming was so near you would not order any dispatch to

<sup>1</sup> Most probably, Lady Elizabeth Butler, daughter to Thomas, Earl of Ossory, and wife of William Richard George, ninth Earl of Darby.

a business like this, I have addressed my petition 1691. to his Majesty ; and if I may obtain so much grace as your Majesty to recommend it to the King, I cannot doubt my success, though my request was much bigger than it is.

But if this is too much to ask, I humbly hope my fault may not be too great for your Majesty's forgiveness to your Majesty's

Most dutiful and most obedient subject.

Woborne Abbey, Oct. 23, 1691.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO LADY DARBY.

As my Lady Darby is never wanting, so I hope she is never weary of doing good and charitable offices. This that I am now asking from her is of the last degree to me, it being, that my poor child may have the honour and advantage of your protection, and kind prudent advice, now at her first entrance into the world. She has (I think) wit enough to take well either caution or reproof from your Ladyship, and she is unexperienced enough to want it, and never been till now from too fond a mother, I doubt. My Lord Devonshire has called her out of my sight a little sooner than I thought we should have parted, my Lady Devonshire not being in town ; but my Lord gives me so good a reason for it (as the Queen's being

1691. best pleased it should be so) that if I had authority to do it, I would not keep her, since I would have all that's mine to pay, as I will ever do, a free obedience to all her Majesty's orders. I believe she will quite lose her credit for a dancer, for I find she cannot walk one dance out, it is so long since she learnt, and she will have so little time to practise, but I encourage her to be content to do ill, rather than do nothing when the Queen bids her do something. She will still grow better I hope, every way a great while. I beg a thousand pardons of my Lady Darby for so long a trouble now, and so lasting an one as I have taken the liberty to ask of her; but a mother's concern will, I trust, excuse all the importunities of one that is, with true and great respect,

Oct. 28, 1691.

Your Ladyship's.

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LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

I AM so fully persuaded that Dr. Fitzwilliam knows my thoughts towards him, that I have never doubted he could misinterpret my receiving so well as I did, his kind inquiry after us, that morning I left Stratton; but when I read your note, verily meaning to write a few lines to thank you, I gave no answer for the man, and so I guess he went without any; for I was, by one business or

another, so hurried the rest of the time I stayed, 1692. that I never remembered what was incumbent on me, and not being put in mind, left it undone, to my vexation when I did remember it.

The solemnity of the time, when I was come here, made me delay till the next week writing to you, and then not taking the first post of that next, my thoughts grew too intent upon the sea affairs, to write letters: but God's holy name be ever praised for the happy close of that great business, which is marvellous in our eyes. May our praises and thanksgivings in some measure correspond to the good we have received, and that our biggest acknowledgments may not be expressed in ringing of bells and making of bonfires; but in recounting his many, and wonderful, and glorious mercies, and in carefully walking more obediently to his laws, which is all we can return to our benefactor.

Notwithstanding our differences in some things, I am sure Doctor Fitzwilliam joins his thanksgivings with me in this victory<sup>1</sup> over that proud

<sup>1</sup> The Battle of La Hogue. The historian of the House of Russell thus records his feelings on standing on the same spot where James witnessed the conflict: "The writer has stood beside the little Norman church of Querqueville, on the selfsame spot which James selected to view the issue of the battle; and, as he looked over the green waters that dashed around the isles of Marcoa, near which the destiny of the three kingdoms was determined, felt all the exultation of an Englishman at the death-blow which was then dealt to the conjoined energies of bigotry, tyranny, and superstition. James himself, though so fatally interested in that day's decision, could not suppress his admiration when he



1692. persecutor of the Protestant religion. The express this morning tells us, that the twelve ships Admiral Russell had pursued to the French shore were all burnt; the six biggest on Monday night, and the six less on Tuesday morning, with all their guns and ammunition; six were three-deck ships, and the other six, the least was of sixty guns. The fleet is now divided into three parts: the Admiral with one to Brest, to try if he can do anything there; one of the less is to go to eastward, to look after six French ships said to be gone that way; and the other to cross between England and Dunkirk. I believe your newspapers at Chiltern tell you all, but being there is nothing newer, I would do it too; and as one can say nothing but

saw how boldly the English seamen climbed from their little shallops the high sides of the French vessels. *Voilà! mes Anglais, comme ils se battent bien!* But it was with slow steps, and all that melancholy mien for which his family was distinguished, that he retired from that rustic churchyard to bury in the convent of La Trappe the memory of his banished greatness." The pencil of M. Schetzky has illustrated this memorable victory, in the large picture now at Woburn Abbey, and the pen of Addison has thus recorded the Admiral's valour.

"Here Russel's actions should my muse require;  
 And, would my strength but second my desire,  
 I'd all his boundless bravery rehearse,  
 And draw his cannons thundering in my verse;  
 High on the deck should the great leader stand,  
 Wrath in his look, and lightning in his hand;  
 Like Homer's Hector where he flung his fire  
 Amidst a thousand ships, and made all Greece retire."

*Addison to the King.*

what would be dull, after what I have said, I will conclude this from,

Your friend and servant.

May 26, 1692.

If Mrs. Napier is brought to bed, I would be glad to know it. And, good Doctor, present my service to Lady Worsley and Sir Robert.

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LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

I WILL say but little for myself, why you were so long without hearing from me, yet I could say much to my justification, but am more willing to come to the more touching and serious part of your last letter; not but I should be very sorry, indeed, if I suspected you had a thought I were unworthy towards you; I dare say you raise none upon appearances, and other reason you shall never have. In short, my daughter Cavendish being ill, carried me twice a day to Arlington House, where I stayed till twelve and one o'clock at night, and much business, being near leaving London, and my eyes serving me no longer by candle-light, which perhaps was the biggest let of all, and hindered my doing what I desired and ought to do.

But to come to the purpose of yours, which I received the 13th of this lamentable month, the

1692. very day of that hard sentence pronounced against my dear friend and husband: it was the fast day, and so I had the opportunity of retiring without any taking notice of it, which pleases me best. What shall I say, Doctor? That I do live by your rules? No, I should lie. I bless God it has long been my purpose, with some endeavour, through mercy, to do it. I hope I may conclude I grieve without sinning; yet I cannot attain to that love of God, and submission to all his providences, that I can rejoice in; however, I bless Him for his infinite mercy, in a support that is not wrought from the world (though my heart is too much bound up in the blessings I have yet left); and I hope chiefly He has enabled me to rejoice in Him as my everlasting portion, and in the assured hope of good things in the other world.

Good Doctor, we are travelling the same way, and hope, through mercy, to meet at the same happy end of all our labours here, in an eternal rest; and it is of great advantage to that attainment, communicating pious thoughts to each other; nothing on this side heaven goes so near to it: and being where God is, it is heaven. If He be in our hearts there will be peace and satisfaction, when one recollects the happiness of such a state (which, if my heart deceives me not, I hope is mine), and I will try to experience more and more that blessed promise—"Come unto me all ye that

are heavy laden, and I will give you ease." This 1692. day and this subject inclines me to be very long, and might to another be too tedious; but I know it is not so to Dr. Fitzwilliam, who uses to feast in the house of mourning. However, my time to open my chamber door is near; and I take some care not to affect in these retirements. In all circumstances I remain,

Sir,

Your constantly obliged friend and servant.

July 21, 1692.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO RACHEL LADY CAVENDISH.

1692.

I DID not think to have scribbled so soon again to you; but the letters I receive telling me so much of your sister's being to marry my Lord Rosse (*Ross*), I am not easy you should be a stranger to what ground there is for it, which is a very little yet. Two or three days before I left London, Lady Northampton proposed it. I took a little time to consider, and then told her I would entertain it, if my Lord would like my terms; and so I left it, making no great account of it: yet, if I had had a good opportunity, I had told you, but did not think it worth the while to ask you an audience for it. I did ask Lady Devonshire what sort of youth he was.

1692. I heard, about a week after I was in the country, Lord Rutland wrote word that he took my offer for a civil put-off: but this day I have a renewing: he is very eager, and seems to be very generous. As I know more, you shall; but, if you are asked, say if there be any such thing, it is in no forwardness, you believe. I hardly see what I write, and my eyes won't endure to do it by a candle. I hate repetition also.

Your affectionate mother.

Sunday.

For Lady Cavendish.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

Woburn Abbey, Aug. 17, 1692.

MY LORD,

Although I know it to be a very unnecessary thing to express my mind in writing, when Mr. Charlton will be content to deliver it to your Lordship in his own words (which I am sensible would be to my advantage), yet since the concern is so dear to me, and I feel myself so affected with all he tells me of your favour to me and my circumstances, I choose this way to own I am obliged by your Lordship's declaring that you will make me as easy in the payment of my daughter's portion as I can desire, if I agree to give what my Lord Devonshire had, believing (because I say it) that I never offered less, but from the reason that it was too

hard upon me to do so much ; and, upon my word, 1692.  
my Lord, I had no other, nor can have towards  
your Lordship, who is so well able to make what  
settlements you please ; and also being my in-  
tentions have ever been (as my affection is) so in  
all other things to be as equal to them both as God  
enabled me to be, but not to bind myself to be so ;  
but I find I must do more in respect to my Lord  
Rutland, and to meet him in his generous way  
of acting than I meant to do, or would do to  
any other ; and therefore, my Lord, I do not  
hesitate to declare I did make up (what my Lord  
Bedford gave his grandchild) 25,000*l.* to Lord  
Devonshire. I only had four years' time to pay  
the last 5,000*l.*, and that I will make up the last  
sum to my Lord Rutland, being he is pleased in my  
regard, to accept of such times of payment as  
I can make it in, as 15,000*l.* down, and 10,000*l.*  
at my death : or if your Lordship likes it better,  
to make it appear I will do all I can, I will pay  
5,000*l.* at the end of so many years as that be agreed  
upon, and so leave but 5,000*l.* to pay at my death ;  
and I will demand no more years' forbearance than  
the very short leases of my London houses expiring ;  
this I mention to demonstrate how ready I am to do  
the whole if I could. Mr. Charlton says your  
Lordship will settle 12,000*l.* a year, and make all  
other settlements upon the young people, according  
to those I had from my Lord Devonshire, which  
being to my Lord Bedford's satisfaction and my

1692. own, there is nothing left for me to lengthen this trouble to your Lordship, besides this profession, that I am, with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble Servant.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

Woburn Abbey, Sept. 8, 1692.

MY LORD,

Good Mr. Charlton came hither yesterday, and found us all engaged to dine eight or ten miles from home, which has made him detain your Lordship's servant till this morning, that I might not want this opportunity to present my Lord of Bedford's and my most humble service to your Lordship, and then by commission from our friend Mr. Charlton, to let you know that Lord Bedford has told him, that if God sees good that the treaty shall proceed so far as marriage, though he should be at London, he will most readily meet my Lord of Rutland at Woburn, to solemnise it there, if your Lordship does not alter your present intention to be at London, or near it, as to privacy, that is approved of, wherever such ceremonies are performed. Mr. Charlton tells me that the paper I sent him of what conditions we had from my Lord Devonshire is approved of by your Lordship, except in one

instance, as that of provisions for younger sons, 1692. which is an article will not be disputed with your Lordship. I cannot recollect anything more I can now speak to very particularly till counsel has met, which I will endeavour shall be as soon as they will find it convenient to do it; and when we compass that some determination will very quickly follow; and let that be as it will, I am for ever engaged to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble servant.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

Woburne Abbey, Oct. 3, 1692.

MY LORD,

It is now about ten days ago that Mr. Charlton sent me a letter from your Lordship, and on Friday last gave me himself those papers you had desired he would take the care of. Among them is that you are pleased to sign with your own hand. I can, my Lord, truly affirm this, that I never read a letter of yours, or hear what Mr. Charlton says, when he comes from Belvoir, but I find myself under some new obligation to my Lord Rutland, and that puts me under all the disposition that can be to please your Lordship in everything that I can possibly, without such extreme inconvenience as I know your Lordship would not choose to put



1692. me to; this I say in respect of time of the general sums that is to be paid, which I hope Mr. Charlton has so represented to your Lordship, that you believe I will strive to accommodate that matter to your Lordship's liking as well as my own, as near as I can do it: and being your hope does so kindly desire the perfecting that treaty now between us, I will most certainly employ myself to that purpose; and it is in order to be that sooner in a capacity to do so, that I send a messenger with this, in which I design to offer a few things to your Lordship's more mature consideration than mine is: the principal is this—whether your Lordship does not think we owe this to the young couple, that they should see one another a little more than they have done (and so at least guess at each other's humour, before we venture to make them, as I hope they shall be, a happy couple), since if your Lordship does so—because I take it for granted that must not happen at London, but Woburn—I conclude it is fit your Lordship should know the time we have to do it in, which is no longer than this month lasts, the beginning of the next being the constant time of Lord Bedford's removing. I perceive Mr. Charlton's zeal that it should be so has made him hope that a very few weeks more would bring all to a close; and I know my Lord of Bedford, though the Parliament will be sitting, and himself the most regular in all his motions of any man I ever saw, yet would lengthen his stay here to compliment

your Lordship, if he saw any sort of prospect to 1692. compass by doing so what we desire; but I believe we have convinced our friend Mr. Charlton that it will have a just contrary effect, and prevent so early a conclusion to our treaty as we may otherwise get, considering that your Lordship, my Lord Bedford, and myself are in the country, and the lawyers in London, who have the business in their hands. When I get thither, I promise your Lordship I will be a diligent solicitor, and if I would be there before my Lord of Bedford, if I should not leave him too much alone, his daughter Lady Margaret Russell leaving him this week, who she loves very tenderly with great reason, and was never parted from her before, and if my children leave him also, he would be so much alone; and I owe him so much duty, and pay it with so much affection to behave myself so unkindly to him; and besides I can be of no use yet in London, for your Lordship's writings are not to be there till the 20th of this month, and they will take some time to be read in, and when the term is begun, your Lordship knows how little time lawyers will give to those who come to their chambers; but I will suffer no delay I can prevent, and when all is ready, your Lordship may yourself appoint what day Woburn shall have the honour to receive you and my lady, and all your company; and I hope to order it without much trouble to my Lord of Bedford, who will come upon this occasion with so good a will to think

1692. it any. Mr. Charlton bid me tell your Lordship he is ready upon notice to meet Lord Rosse at Northampton, or, if your Lordship require it, even at Belvoir; but I believe he would be glad he were summoned before the King leaves, though he says he is resolved to lay all things aside to serve your Lordship; but I believe it would be a hard thing to make good then. I have made this so tedious a paper to read, that I will hasten to sign myself,

My Lord,  
Your Lordship's most humble  
And obliged Servant.

Give me leave to add this, that Lord Bedford hopes Lord Rosse will visit without ceremony, for if he does, he knew he ought to receive him so, and he is ill prepared to do so, being so near removing to London; and, however, we think privacy much better, but everything is left to your Lordship's better judgment.

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QUEEN MARY TO LADY RUSSELL.

I CONFESS myself lazy enough in writing, yet that has not hindered my answering Lady Russell's letter, but staying for Mr. Russell's own answer, to which you referred me.

I have seen him this day, and find he is resolved

to be Mr. Russell still; I could not press him <sup>1692</sup>. farther in a thing he seemed so little to care for, so there is an end of that matter. Whether the King will think I have done it enough or no I cannot tell, but it is not in my nature to compliment, which makes me always take people at their words. I was glad to hear Lord Bedford is so well, and that your eyes are no worse.

You are so taken up I hear with your daughter's marriage, that I will not make my letter any longer; besides it is easier to say many things than to write them, and at present I have not much time; I hope soon to have more by the King's coming, who I expect in a few days, if it please God to give good weather for his journey.

I shall say no more now, but assure you nobody can more sincerely wish you all imaginable satisfaction in what you are about, and all things else, than I do, who am really, and will show myself on all occasions,

Your very affectionate friend,

MARIE R.

Whitehall, Oct. 18, 1692.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

WHILE I can see at all, I must do a little more than I can when God sees it best that outward darkness shall fall upon me, which will deprive me of all

1692. society at a distance, which I esteem exceeding profitable and pleasant ; but still I have full hope I shall rejoice in ~~that~~ He will not deny me his great grace to strengthen me with might, by his Spirit in the inner man. Then I shall walk in the right way, till I reach the joys of eternal endurance.

I must ever thank my friends for their good thoughts of me ; if I know my own heart, you are just to me in those that concern that affair ; my poor child must have a part, if it take effect. My daily prayers are to be directed by his Holy Spirit, and that it may proceed or fall as He in mercy sees it best. I cannot write long enough together, to say much to the argument you do gently hint your mind concerning it. He has been here a week, and there appears no disposition in him that is blameable, though his age is not enough to compose him skilful in disguise, and so with art to conceal his inclinations ; neither are his tender years proof against impressions, and imbibing bad as well as good. The gentleman you mentioned was with him, and, I believe, has done well his duty. His want of complaisance gives me no prejudice, or so little, that if he were my son, I would put him into his hands from me, for some time to the university, where I think our nobility should pass some of their time ; it has been for many years<sup>1</sup> neglected ; I must use that term, because I think it a proper one.

<sup>1</sup> Lord Tavistock was sent in the following year to the University of Oxford.

We are, God prospering our intentions, as near 1692. our remove to London, as the middle of this month is to us, where I should hope to meet Lady Gainsborough, but that your last hints nothing of it. Pray present my most humble service unto her, and continue just to me, in believing me to be

Your faithful and affectionate friend to serve you.

Nov. 5, 1692.

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LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

THE kindest marks you can give me, good Doctor, of your having me in your thoughts, I received as you designed I should, before, and yet very near the day that I must ever give a solemn regard to; but, alas! my bad eyes serve me now so little that I could not read your papers, and tell you that I had done so in one day. It is mortifying, yet I hope I do not repine, but, on the contrary, rejoice in the goodness of my God to me, that when I feared the utter loss of sight, has let me thus long see the light, and by it given me time to prepare for that day of bodily darkness<sup>1</sup> which perhaps must soon overtake me. And what a grace is it that I should first settle my two daughters, as I expect to do!

<sup>1</sup> Her apprehensions of loss of sight were happily removed by a successful operation for a cataract.

1693. though as near as we take this in hand to be, it may never take effect, nay, shall not (if God is pleased to grant my request) unless it be a thing pleasing in his sight, and which his blessing shall go along with.

I am apt to say, unless they shall be happy in it, but I find a distinction to be made between being pleasing in God's sight, and their being happy, as we term it, that is, being full of worldly enjoyments, and taking excessive delight in their enjoyments. This God may withhold in mercy to their future good. So that I consider, if the act is acceptable to Him, all shall work to their good (if they love and serve Him), but whether by a prosperous, pleasant gale, or struggling with stormy weather, that I matter not so much, their eternal interest being my care. And this I beg your joining with me in hearty prayer for. I thank you, Sir, for the meditation so choicely provided for me, who must remember my feeble sight, since it remembers me, who will be

Your constant and obliged friend and servant.

Woburn Abbey, July 25, 1693.

SIR JAMES FORBES<sup>1</sup> TO LADY RUSSELL.

MADAM,

I could not miss this opportunity of giving your 1693. Ladyship some account of Lord Ross and Lady Ross's journey,<sup>2</sup> and their reception at Belvoir, which looked more like the progress of a King and Queen through their country, than that of a bride and bridegroom's going home to their father's house. At their first entry into Leicestershire, they were received by the High Sheriff at the head of all the gentlemen of the country, who all paid their respects, and complimented the lady bride at Harborough. She was attended next day to this place by the same gentlemen, and by thousands of other people, who came from all places of the country to see her, and to wish them both joy, even with huzzas and acclamations.

As they drew near to Belvoir, our train increased, with some coaches, and with fresh troops of aldermen, and corporations, besides a great many cler-

<sup>1</sup> The gentleman by whom Lord Cavendish sent his offers of assistance to Lord Russell, after his condemnation. He was one of the persons examined in 1689, before the Committee of the House of Commons for the inspection of the trials of those who had suffered for the Rye House Plot. His examination proves how much he was at that time in the intimacy of the Duke of Monmouth, and those with whom he associated.—See *State Trials*, by Howell, vol. ix. p. 961.

<sup>2</sup> Lady Russell's second daughter, Catharine, was married to John, Lord Ross (afterwards second Duke of Rutland, K.G.), on Aug. 17, 1693.



1693. gymen, who presented the bride and bridegroom (for so they are still called) with verses upon their happy marriage.

I cannot better represent their first arrival at Belvoir, than by the Woburn song that Lord Bedford liked so well; for at the gate were four-and-twenty fiddlers all in a row; four-and-twenty trumpeters, with their tan tara ra ra's; four-and-twenty ladies, and as many parsons; and in great order they went in procession to the great apartment, where the usual ceremony of saluting and wishing of joy passed, but still not without something represented in the song, as very much tittle-tattle, and fiddle-fiddle. After this the time passed away till supper in visiting all the apartments of the house, and in seeing the preparations for the sack-posset, which was the most extraordinary thing I did ever see, and much greater than it was represented to be. After supper, which was exceeding magnificent, the whole company went in procession to the great hall; the bride and bridegroom first, and all the rest in order, two and two; there it was the scene opened, and the great cistern appeared, and the healths began; first in spoons, some time after in silver cups; and though the healths were many, and great variety of names given to them, it was observed after one hour's hot service, the posset did not sink above one inch, which made my Lady Rutland call in all the family, and then upon their knees the bride and bridegroom's health, with prosperity and happiness,

was drunk in tankards brim-full of sack-posset. 1693.  
This lasted till past 12 o'clock, &c.

Madam,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

J. FORBES.

1693.

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ARCHBISHOP TILLOTSON TO LADY RUSSELL.

Lambeth House, Aug. 26, 1693.

MADAM,

Though nobody rejoices more than myself in the happiness of your Ladyship and your children, yet in the hurry in which you must needs have been, I could not think it fit for to give you the disturbance so much as of a letter, which otherwise had, both in friendship and good manners, been due upon this great occasion. But now that busy time is, in a good measure, over, I cannot forbear, after so many as I am sure have been before me, to congratulate with your Ladyship this happy match of your daughter; for so I heartily pray it may prove, and have great reason to believe it will, because I cannot but look upon it as part of the comfort and reward of your patience and submission to the will of God, under that sorest and most heavy affliction that could have befallen you; and when God sends and intends a blessing, it shall have no sorrow or evil with it.

1693. I entreat my Lord Ross and his Lady to accept of my humble service, and my hearty wishes of great and lasting happiness.

My poor wife is at present very ill, which goes very near me; and having said this, I know we shall have your prayers. I entreat you to give my humble service to my Lord of Bedford, and my Lord Cavendish and his Lady. I could, upon several accounts, be melancholy, but I will not upon so joyful an occasion. I pray God to preserve and bless your Ladyship, and all the good family at Woburn, and to make us all concerned to prepare ourselves with the greatest care for a better life.

I am, with all true respect and esteem,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most faithful

And most humble servant,

JO. CANT.

LADY RUSSELL TO DR. FITZWILLIAM.

You will be so just to me, good Doctor, as never to mistrust my silence; if I did not believe so, I should be in some pain now, having two letters from you by me, that if I am not very unworthy will make me take a pleasure to say something in return of so much good will; and it is then an ill mark not to have writ in so long a time, being I know none but

what are self-lovers enough to do what pleases 1693. them. Yet so has been my case, I would have been glad to have conversed with you, good Doctor, but could not, as my present circumstances are. Heretofore, whatever engagements I had a days, the nights were free to me; but my ill eyes can now not serve me at all, when once a candle is lighted; so that since Lord Rutland came hither, I have been mistress of no time; if I had, I should not have lived in a continual noise and hurry as I have done. I did excuse my going to Belvoir with all the company, but followed them before I had acquitted myself of all my formal congratulations; for if I do more than a very little at a time, I find my eyes ache, and that I am sure is naught, and a little sight is too precious a good to be neglected.

I thank you, sir, for all your thoughts on the subject which filled mine this last year, but I cannot attempt to say anything in return; it would be too long a discourse for me this way. I hope I have done my duty well to my daughters, and that they shall enjoy a lasting happiness; but above all, my prayer is, that the end of their faith may be the salvation of their souls; that they may be endued with such graces here, as may fit them for the glories of the state hereafter.

If your retirement pleases you, indeed, and that you do not deceive yourself, I have nothing to say against it, if your health does not abate, which certainly will, if your mind does not agree perfectly

1693. with what your will has chosen: let that be a timely monitor to you. Man is a sociable creature, and you by disposition are made for it, and by the accidents of your life ever used to it, so that it is very new to you to be very solitary long together; and while you have a competency, Doctor, deny not yourself the innocent, nay the profitable comforts of life. I apprehend but one inconveniency, if you do a little less sequester yourself, and that I hope you are of a more temperate spirit than to draw on yourself; but you are best judge. I exceed my bounds exceedingly, for I take little paper to-night, no more than one side, not to turn over, for if I do, this is the issue. Farewell, good Doctor, for this time.

I am constantly, your friend to serve you.

Sept. 18, 1693.

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ARCHBISHOP TILLOTSON TO LADY RUSSELL.

Lambeth House, Oct. 13, 1693.

I HAVE forborne, Madam, hitherto, even to acknowledge the receipt of your Ladyship's letter, and your kind concernment for mine and my wife's health, because I saw how unmerciful you were to your eyes in your last letter to me; so that I should certainly have repented the provocation I gave you to it by mine, had not so great and good an occasion made it necessary.

I had intended this morning to have sent Mr. 1693. Vernon<sup>1</sup> to Woburn, to have inquired of your Ladyship's health, having but newly heard, that since your return from Belvoir a dangerous fever had seized upon you. But yesterday morning at council I had happily met with Mr. Russell, who to my great joy, told me, that he hoped that danger was over; for which I thank God with all my heart, because I did not know how fatal the event might be, after the care and hurry you have been in, and in so sickly a season.

The King's return is now only hindered by contrary winds. I pray God to send him safe to us, and to direct him what to do when he is come. I was never so much at my wit's end concerning the public. God only can bring us out of the labyrinth we are in, and I trust He will.

My wife gives her most humble service and thanks to you for your concernment for her, and does rejoice equally with me for the good news of your recovery.

Never since I knew the world, had I so much reason to value my friends. In the condition I now am, I can have no new ones; or, if I could, I can have no assurance that they are so. I could not at a distance believe, that the upper end of the world

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps James Vernon, afterwards Secretary of State, whose letters mention several interviews with Mr. Russell, afterwards Earl of Orford.—Letters Illustrative of the Reign of William III. edited by J. P. James. 3 vols. 8vo. 1841.

1693. was so hollow as I find it. I except a very few, of whom I can believe no ill till I plainly see it.

I have ever earnestly coveted your letters; but now I do as earnestly beg of you to spare them for my sake, as well as your own. With my very humble service to my good Lord of Bedford, and to all yours, and my hearty prayers to God for you all, I remain,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obliged

And obedient servant,

JO. CANT.

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LADY RUSSELL TO LADY ROOS.

Southam House, 15 Jan.

I AM so various in my resolves that now I am sorry I have forbid what you meant to do, and have stayed at Southampton House in hopes my letter would be too late to prevent that affair. I do now, if God permit, fixly purpose to leave this place Monday next. At the end of my letter I will say more to this matter. My humble service to Lord Rutland, and abundance of thanks for the valuable present of his picture, and I will not murmur at my stay how I shall see it, and also our Sunday tea drinking. Lady Sunderland's present will not require, I think, a letter. I think in rela-

tion to the value I am sure it will not. She found 1694. the gauze and the woman had six shillings,—would not pay for yours because she says it was to be but a guinea; but Lady Sunderland and Mrs. Eden saying it was cheap at twenty-seven shillings, down it is gone. Lady Sunderland went yesterday to Twickenham—pretty well. If you do write once, her not being able to write will close that trouble: if you desire her not to think of doing more than to accept of your professions. Her health I never fail to inform you; all I know, but so much of my advice might be omitted if I did not like so well to be scribbling where I am doing it now; and as for what the Court is doing here, the concern is abated when it is to relate what one does not like, and will be in the private too, that is, so far as that the seals were sent for from Lord Sunderland. The Queen ordered Mr. Boyle, who told her Majesty he wished she would think fit to do it by some other, they had been long good friends, and it was an unpleasant office to be charged with. She replied, therefore, best to be done by a friend. Then he said he was not well acquainted with the customs on such occasions: he thought Lord Sunderland might ask him if he might not have the honour to present them himself. She said that would be a trouble to himself as well as to her, so all that is over. I think it is true the Duke of Beaufort has bought Lord Albemarle,<sup>1</sup> and pays 12,000*l.* as an able

<sup>1</sup> To what this alludes the Editor has been unable to discover.



1694. assistant; it is guessed the present professions are, this is all the alterations intended, but the person has that seal was not guessed at by any soul that I can hear of. Lord Sunderland says he was told it three days before, but thought them out of the way. I remember Lord Devon and he were great friends at Westminster School; and he says, how he is very pleasant conversation, but application to business has not yet been his talent. He was of the commission of trade, and would make jest at all they did there, but trouble himself no further; and was a surprise Lord Paulet would not be held to his point, a porter's life is a better thing. Duchess Somerset has lodgings given her at Kensington, so suppose more favour will follow, but not all three places in one, which does not please some. The lady easy to all I dare say, Lady Hide, big with expectation of the passport that Duchess . . . that has all still in town. Letters pass yet; what passes to this side of the water I meddle not with. All common chat is silenced by these bigger matters, since all are judges of all. The pen is in great use at this time. Her Majesty herself is sure a ready writer; being an insignificant one myself, I offer all my best services and blessings.

LADY RACHEL RUSSELL TO MRS. HOWLAND.<sup>1</sup>

Aug. 30th, 1694.

LAST night I received yours of the 28th. I should 1694. not come so quick upon you, but that I find you are going further off, and I am not certain that one I wrote on Sunday last may not miscarry, and I think it is very requisite to come to some resolution about Drayton.<sup>2</sup> In order to do so in my last letter I desired to have what helps I could from you, as any survey of the value of the lands, or if you think fit to send me one I would be glad to see one of his accounts, for when I send to him he may tell us what he pleases: but, above all, I desire you would let him be made acquainted that I am sending a servant thither, for he may shut the doors against us, and pretend not to believe what they say, that they come from me and by my order; therefore I desire to make use of your attorney. I think to send Spencer,<sup>3</sup> and one with him that we think understands the nature of ground. If you have anybody with you or that you know that could be

<sup>1</sup> Wife of John Howland, of Streatham, Esq., whose daughter Elizabeth married Wriothesley, second Duke of Bedford, K.G.

<sup>2</sup> In Cambridgeshire. The manor house, which had been occasionally a residence of the Duke of Bedford, is now a farm-house. This manor was formerly in the possession of the Howland family, and passed by marriage to Wriothesley, Duke of Bedford, who married the heiress of the Howland family.

<sup>3</sup> Her steward.

1694. assisting to us in this business, if you please to let me know, I will take care they should be made acquainted when Spencer goes, and so he may come hither and go along with Spencer, or meet him there, as you like best.

As to the drawing up a lease, in whose name it should be I must be resolved by council. I think it should be by my Lord of Bedford's, so I will send to Mr. Martain, and give you notice when I do know.

I am sorry dear Lady Tavistock has any employment she does not take pleasure in. Pray tell her I hope this will be the single one that will fall out to be so, and the trouble of this will not last long; and it is my opinion that if they teach her much of her grammar it increases her trouble to little purpose, for French is oftener and as well learned by ear. Pray give her my blessing. The Duke of Bedford sends duties with his humble services to you. If our daughter is disposed to read another from a young man I know one is ready to write it. I do not answer some part of your letter, and I have much to dictate this morning, so in haste conclude this from your kind and humble servant.

## LADY RUSSELL TO LADY ROOS.

Sunday, 29th Sept. 1695.

HAVING writ a letter upon business, and find- 1695.  
ing no hurt by it to my eyes, I venture to say a little to you, my dear child, and tell you my fears that your Lord and you cannot obtain such a compliance as you might expect, and were most reasonable to be given, and your trouble, perhaps, is heightened that no good prospect offers itself among your own friends: indeed, I did bid your sister tell you that with any regard to prudence, I could see none as yet. I must not be long, and therefore I hasten to remember you of your former promises to strive to take every providence patiently, and as cheerfully as you can, and not foolishly pine and waste your spirits and spoil your health against a better day comes, which certainly will if you provoke not the only Giver of all good things. Heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning, and the chiefest blessing on this earth you have, a kind husband and a pretty gentleman. Let that sweeten all other meaner things, as it is your duty it should do; strive to act your part and glory in it; it is a pride I can allow of, but all discontent proceeds from a pride that must be resisted, or a poor mortal can never be happy on earth or prepared to be so in heaven. Can we without impru-

1695. dence say to Him that made us, Why is it thus and thus with me? Ask yourself, what have you done or what can man do to merit from God? Have not you many good things others want that are perhaps more humble than you, but still their submission is not tried enough; but when it is, and they are as gold refined in the furnace, how greatly shall they be exalted for evermore, and respected here. Take it well, my love, I remind you of your duty, and let it be your part to strive to do it: to whom asks it shall be given—you shall be contented if you desire it. I have experienced it just at your years; I bless God I can say (without vanity) what pleased me I enjoyed, what crossed me had not power to torment me long; I strove to think if my lot had not been what it was it might have been worse for me in regard to my eternal interest, and that might pass and other days come, or however the day of vexation would end, and I cannot commend a better reflection than this, that troubles or pleasures that end with time are not to be affecting at too high a rate. A year or two to come seems long, but twenty past as nothing: I have felt many days of bitter grief as well as others of lesser trouble and provocation, and many of great and true happiness, which was made up by love and quiet at home, abroad friendships and innocent diversions; and yet believe me, child, life is a continual labour chequered with care and pleasure, therefore rejoice in your portion—take the world as you find it, and you will, I

trust, find heaviness may endure for a night, but 1695. joy comes in the morning. It grows dark; your sister is to close this from (your) well-wishing mother.

I am so out of charity with you that I will not add one word to this, but leave you entirely to my mother's good council. I am sorry the story of my Lady Northumberland was forgot.

To my Lady Roos, at Hadden.

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LADY RUSSELL TO LADY ROOS.<sup>1</sup>

Sunday, 8th Dec., 1695.

I HOPE you tell me true that your cold was but a little one: pray never deceive me, for it serves to no good end at all; unless you think it does so, to let alone a medicine that I might enjoin you to take. I doubt Mr. Pierce's drugs were lost upon you; if so, indeed, you are very naughty, for you know you are subject so to be ill in some little odd complaint or other, and yet his physic agrees with you, and keeps you well for a good while after, and if you helped yourself with it but for one year or two, it would strengthen your constitution for ever. Lord Roos will contradict all this,

<sup>1</sup> This, and all the subsequent letters of Lady Russell to her daughter Lady Roos, are printed from the originals in the possession of his Grace the Duke of Rutland, K.G., at Belvoir Castle.

1695. but in this point I cannot agree with his Lordship, as well as I think of him. We have stayed till it is very cold weather at Woburn. Pray do not whisk it a horseback till it pleases God you have overcome your rheums; it was the same with me at your age, only it affected my lungs, as it does most severely your teeth. Your sister has paid dearly for doing honour to Queen Dowager's birthday, but I have had to-day a letter from La Spencer, who says nothing remains but a severe cold in the head. The Parliament Fast being next Wednesday, puts by our coming till Thursday. I have not lately had news from Cambridge,<sup>1</sup> but expect to meet some at London, intending to keep a regular advice, though not to go though never so free till the middle or end of January. Lady Sunderland sent me word the little child at their house was dying. Lady Catherine has left you a more lively and thriving one. I believe my service as due: I desire it most particular to your Lord.

I am yours in all affection.

Lady Alice is weary of boarding at Kensington, is coming to Bedford House, and writes to her father that she believes that Morris Napier will not be long there, but where next, she does not intimate. I guess if it cannot be at Bedford House, it will be Dorsetshire.

Now your brother is not at Cambridge, I almost

<sup>1</sup> Lord Tavistock, who was then at the University.

repent he did not stand for Middlesex;<sup>1</sup> he might 1695. still, but I think we shall not choose it; I will not

<sup>1</sup> At the general election in October, 1695. The following letter to Lady Russell is printed from Miss Berry's Memoir, from the original in the Duke of Devonshire's possession:—

“ London, October 3rd (1695).

“ I can safely retract, Madam, what I said in my last letter, that our courtiers did not trouble themselves with much business, but now I find we are all of a sudden grown extraordinary busy in making interest everywhere to bring in good men to our new Parliament, and this reason alone has moved our Lords Justices<sup>a</sup> (I mean the two principal, my Lord Keeper<sup>b</sup> and the Duke of Shrewsbury) to send for me, and to order me to write immediately to your Ladyship, that you would be pleased to let my Lord Tavistock stand for knight of the shire for Middlesex; and although I made all the objections against it, that I think the Duke of Bedford or your Ladyship can make, yet they were still of one opinion, that it is your interest, and for the honour of the family, that he should stand at present; and being joined with Sir John Worsenane,<sup>c</sup> a very honest man, who is recommended by my Lord Keeper, they doubt not but they will carry it with a high hand, and thereby keep out two notorious Tories, which can never be done otherwise. When I told their Lordships that my Lord Tavistock was soon going to Cambridge, and afterwards to travel for two or three years, the Duke of Shrewsbury answered, that they would not hinder anything of that design; for he needed not to appear but once at the election, when he would be attended by several thousands of gentlemen, and other persons on horseback out of town, and the charges would be but little or nothing; and the Duke of Shrewsbury bid me tell your Ladyship, that if you did consent he should stand, which he doubted not but you would, since it was on so good an account, that then they must have leave to set him up for that

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<sup>a</sup> King William was now in Holland.

<sup>b</sup> Lord Somers.

<sup>c</sup> Sir John Wolstonholme, of London, third baronet; he died in 1709; his second wife was relict of Sir Rowland Alston, of Odell, county of Bedford, Bart.; this connection probably secured him the Russell interest. He was returned with Lord Edward Russell.



1696. in writing tell you why, it would be too long a story.

For the Right Hon. the Lady Roos,  
at Hadden, Derbyshire.

day only, by the name of Lord Russell, which would bring ten thousand more on his side, if there be so many freeholders in the county.

"I have now, Madam, delivered my message from those two great Lords; which they had a great concern for, and seemed very earnest to have it complied with: therefore I think it would be very impertinent in me to use any arguments of my own, but must leave it to the consideration of the Duke of Bedford and your Ladyship's wise judgment to determine: however I beg your Ladyship will be pleased to make as speedy an answer as it is possible, because we expect the King here by Sunday or Monday next; and immediately the Parliament will be dissolved, and all hands will be set on work for a new one, as I hear the expression in the King's letters to the Lords is.

"I suppose this post brings a great deal of joy to Lady Margaret; for the Spanish letters that are come to-day, make mention that the Admiral<sup>a</sup> is upon his way home, and Mr. Priestman tells me that he will be here within these ten days; and Sir George Rook has orders from the King by this last post from Flanders, to set sail for the Straits immediately. I shall add no more but the assurance of my being,

"Madam,

"Your Ladyship's most faithful

"And obedient servant,

"J. FORBES." <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Admiral Russell, afterwards created Earl of Orford, to whom Lady Margaret, his cousin, was married.

<sup>b</sup> It is not very clear who Sir James Forbes was; most probably the same who was a Commissioner for supply for Aberdeenshire in 1686. Lady Margaret Russell, in a letter to Mr. Thornton, mentions that Sir James Forbes "was very fond of great men's company." The Forbes were Whigs in those days, and consequently on terms of intimacy with the nobility of that party. Sir James is frequently mentioned in the Vernon Papers, and also in the correspondence of King William, but there is no account of him in those papers.

## BISHOP OF SALISBURY TO LADY RUSSELL.

I DO heartily congratulate with your Ladyship 1696. for this new blessing. God has now heard your prayers, with relation to two of your children, which is a good earnest that he will hear them in due time with relation to the third. You begin to see your children's children; God grant you may likewise see peace upon Israel. And now that God has so built up your house, I hope you will set yourself to build a house of prayer for the honour of his name.

You have passed through very different scenes of life. God has reserved the best to the last. I do make it a standing part of my poor prayers twice a day, that as now your family is the greatest in its three branches that has been in England in our age, so that it may in every one of these answer those blessings by an exemplary holiness, and that both you and they may be public blessings to the age and nation.

I do not think of coming up yet this fortnight, if I am not called for. I humbly thank your Ladyship for giving me this early notice of so great a blessing to you. I hope it shall soon be completed by my Lady Roos's full recovery. Mrs. Burnet is very sensible of the honour your Ladyship does her in thinking of her, and does particularly re-

1696. Joice in God's goodness to you. I am, with the highest sense of gratitude and respect possible,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most humble, most obedient,  
And most obliged servant,

GI. SARUM.

Salisbury, 31st Oct., 1696.

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LADY RUSSELL TO SIR ROBERT WORSLEY.<sup>1</sup>

SIR ROBERT,

If my letters were of service to you, I should not reserve them, only for such times as I serve ends of my own by it, as I now design to do, being the errand of this paper is to obtain your opinion, if you please to give it, upon a few questions I will put to you. By the death of Mr. Morin, Sir, you know there wants a presentation of Kingsworthy, and a vicar at Micheldevever. I find both places well disposed to receive Mr. Swayne. I hope he is worthy of the gift, and believe you think him so. If you should know anything why he is not, though as a friend you might wish he were the incumbent, yet I am persuaded that in a just regard to the weight of the matter, and to me who ask it from you, if you know any visible reason that he is not a proper person for such a preferment, that you will

<sup>1</sup> Fourth Baronet of that title (afterwards Worsley Holmes), of Apuldercombe, Isle of Wight.

caution me in it; for I profess to you, Sir, I think 1696. the care of so many souls is a weighty charge; and I have been willing to take time to consider whose hands I put these into. I can, with all my scruples, make no exception to Mr. Swayne, if his vapours are not too prevalent to permit his being free and active in such a charge. But I hope it is not so; and if you concur with me, I will bestow them upon him; for I do not see how I can part them. And now, Sir, I come with my second question to you, when I have told you the provision I would make for curates. I have met with a paper signed by Mr. Morin to my father, in which he engages to allow the curate at Kingsworthy 50*l.* a-year; and that at Straton, who served Popham also, 30*l.* a year; Northington is not mentioned in it. Now, Sir, I would, in short, have the same stipends, as this paper signifies were formerly agreed on, to be honestly made good by the next incumbent, and during my pleasure. There will be 10*l.* a year more coming in to him than has been formerly, and as much to the curate who serves Straton; for a few years ago my dear Lord added 20*l.* a year, during his will to do so, to be so divided; and without a very justifiable reason I shall not withhold it; and 40*s.* a year more to the vicar, upon an agreement for some orchards taken into the park.

From this long digression I return to my question, which arises from this purpose of mine that I

1696. must offer to you. I know it is a thing required by many, to take a bond for resigning at the patron's pleasure. I have no disposition at all to do so; but to this I have, that I would have a bond to perform these conditions to the curates, unless I dispense with him; and also, that in case of non-residence, he shall resign to me. For the case often happens, they get another living, and the situation it may be more pleasant, then put in a curate for a small stipend, and I have no remedy. That this is practicable I believe, though I am ignorant enough, and am not in a place where I can be well informed. But I refer myself, Sir Robert, to you, and in what you see cause to oppose me, pray do it; you will oblige me by it; and, I think, I shall submit to reason. But if what I ask is (as I conceive it is) practicable, I should take it as a favour if you would discourse Mr. Swayne upon it, and then instruct Mr. Mewes to draw up an instrument to the purposes I have signified. When I hear from you I will be ready to——

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE REV. J. THORNTON.

(April) 1697.

WHEN I wrote to good Mr. Thornton, I thought I had certainly begun the correspondence I desire to maintain, but I find our letters were dated the same

day, but are not of the same value ; however, I do 1697.  
not envy my neighbour's talent being above mine,  
and indeed I have the less temptation, because I am  
sure you have no virtue nor knowledge that I may  
not be the better for it; I will endeavour ; whatever  
further progress I make, I think (by the grace of  
God) my integrity and good meaning shall never  
deserve your censure, nor anybody's besides, and  
that must content my ambition for my own part,  
but on my son's it does not : I desire he may aspire  
higher, though my constant prayer is, that his  
studies may be innocent and profitable, that is (in  
my thoughts), directed to his most spiritual, his  
precious and immortal soul. I lie yet under no dis-  
couragements, for yesterday Mr. Hicks speaks of  
him to me when we are alone just as he did. Logic  
goes forward very well, and he says his judgment is  
wonderful nice and true ; what he reads alone, he  
gives a very handsome account of. He tried him  
the other day by a new treatise of logic,<sup>1</sup> that the  
Dean of Christ Church has lately printed, but he  
observes he does not love to go over what he has  
once done. They have a Bible bound up with  
blank leaves, and in them, as he reads, he intends  
he shall write, as he expounds any hard text. It is  
hard to me to leave off talking, when it is of my  
son I am speaking ; but I am the longer, because I

<sup>1</sup> *Artis Logicæ Compendium.* By Henry Aldrich, Dean of Christ  
Church. First Edition. Ox. 1692. 8vo.

1697. extend my reports to my Lord Duke, as well as to Mr. Thornton, and take it to be a less troublesome way to him, than by particular address to his Grace, who is too good and too well bred to suffer me to do my duty without recompense; and though I love his letters because they are very kind, yet I would have none at the expense of any the least trouble to him, whose health I hope to hear often of from you, Sir, and I will write to you, without considering whether I have had one letter or six from you. At present I have had two, but my meaning is, when I find leisure, that is, have not wrote too much for my eyes, or have anything I would be willing to say, then I will scribble, and not else.

You may perceive I take time by seeing my first date, which is Tuesday, and the last is Friday morning. I had writ the most part of that when I returned my Lord's letter of the 9th instant; however, I will defer my acknowledgments till another opportunity, if it was but for the reason above mentioned, to suspend his trouble. Pray present my best service to Lord James, and tell him his fair hand of authority brings the prints very constantly. I have heard of Doctor Walis'<sup>1</sup> print. Sure there are many truths in it, but he has taken great liberty of speech. I love good manners in all cases. It

<sup>1</sup> Most probably Dr. John Wallis, an eminent mathematician, author of several works, philosophical and theological. He died in 1703.

LADY RUSSELL TO THE MARCH. OF HARTINGTON. 137

is eight o'clock, and letters are called for, so I must 1697.  
end this from

Sir,

Your assured friend to serve you.

My humble and kind service to all my friends—  
I cannot stay to name.

For Mr. Thornton,  
at Bedford House.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE MARCHIONESS OF HARTINGTON.

Oxon. 22nd April, 1697.

HAVING no thought that my dear child had anything to say to me would ask a present return, your letter being brought to me when it was candle-light, I put by reading it till this morning, when it is time to give my answer; so that you did not write more in haste than I must: but, indeed, there is no hesitating for the answer I shall make to you. I will affirm, no mother ever was or can be more inclined than myself to approve of all compliance in you to my Lord Duke and Lady Duchess; but, in our present case, I must (with pardon) be excepted, in regard as I think both to you and myself. You brought your child too hardly into the world to let me be willing (as I have no doubt my Lord and Lady would not more than I), that you should be without all the best helps to be had, and to see the success myself; and that would be of



1697. troublesome consequence to all parties concerned.

But I am so tender that there should be no disorder in my Lord Duke's affairs upon my account, or to give me satisfaction, that I offer this:—if Lord Hartington and you will take such conveniences as I can give at Southampton House, then, when the family leaves Barkly House,<sup>1</sup> if your Lord and you will choose where to plant there yourselves and nursery, you shall be welcome to me, till you are (as I trust you shall be) happily past the hazard of one in your condition. When you are at my house, I will be leaving Oxford as soon as you can desire me to come to you. You will acquaint my Lord and Lady with what I have said; and if they believe (what is very true) that I feel nothing gra-

<sup>1</sup> Barkly House. The old town house of the Earls of Devonshire was not in Piccadilly, but in Bishopsgate, where Devonshire Square now stands. William, the second Earl, died there in 1629.

William, fourth Earl and first Duke, having at first no town house, rented and lived in Montagu House (the old British Museum), which was burned down during his occupation, in January, 1686. (See page 179, vol. 1.)

After the accession of King William, "the Duke of Devonshire took it into his head, that could he have the Duchess of Portsmouth's lodgings, at Whitehall, where there was a fine room for balls, it would give him a very magnificent air." (Duchess of Marlborough's Defence of her Conduct, p. 29.)

It is probable the Duke purchased Berkeley House, in Piccadilly, after it had been vacated by the Princess Anne in 1695, and changed its name to Devonshire House, since Bishop Kennet says that he died Aug. 18, 1707, in Devonshire House, Piccadilly.—See note to Evelyn's Life of Mrs. Godolphin, edited by the Bishop of Oxford.

There is little doubt but that the "Barkly House" whence this letter was dated, was in Piccadilly; the name not having yet been changed.

tifies me in this world, but from my children, this is 1697. a natural consequence,—to desire to please myself in everything I can compass. If I had more time, I need say no more. Your repeated injunctions not to lose this post have hastened this sooner by one day, the carrier going to-morrow. From, dear child,  
Your ever affectionate mother.

Pray present my humble service to my Lord Duke and Lady Duchess; your own Lord, my best services; and blessing to the young person.

I think the least trouble to you will be, that my Lord and Lady Devonshire read what I say.

For the Right Honourable the Marquess of  
Hartington, at Barckly House, London.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE REV. J. THORNTON.

Friday morning, (May, 1697).

Good Mr. Thornton, I thank you most kindly for your long letter, and your good news of my Lord Duke's being in so good a state of health; God increase and continue it. I have no mistrust Lord Rutland is so ill, for we had a letter from Pulse by the same post (that would have) brought the news, if any such came, of his being so ill, and she mentions nothing of it. I have, indeed, had

1697. no letter from my daughter herself, since she was at Northampton, which is the only thing can make me miserable; for if it be so I am sure she is full of care; and she is often very sick with her breeding, so can be at little leisure. I wish my son find any to write to you, he ought not to have so much as myself, so mine may well come first. Pray tell my Lord Spencer is gone to-day to Cambridgeshire, and lies at Woburn town to-night; he intended to see Woburn House to-morrow morning, or rather, I suppose, the park and gardens, which this last week's rains must have made very beautiful indeed: whatever my young man does, I assure you, Sir, I do not think my time so much misspent here as it is at London. The regularity of the life is very agreeable to me. I can only say you shall be very welcome to me everywhere, but if your eye be ready, that would be a work well over, and at present it is a fine season for it. If the ladies that talk of coming do it, I would see you by choice till they are at London again; as for going to Streatham, I conclude you will find them; I knowing nothing of their stirring from that place as yet. If I see Lord Galway I will not fail to remember your orders, Sir, about Mr. Davids. I hope my Lord Duke will do so too; good Doctor Walis<sup>1</sup> was to see me yesterday, the very great heat of the sun brought him out; the bishop had forbid him coming to Magdalen College till May was

<sup>1</sup> See page 136.

come ; but it being a May-day he went from me 1697. to go to him ; he looks well, and tells me he hears nothing but good of my child. Mr. Hicks told me on Sunday last that he believes he has more learning than any fine young nobleman in England has. I trust he shall be endowed with the grace of God with it ; or all is but vanity, and will be found deceitful upon the weights. Nobody is or can be more regular in all public offices ; I hope his private are so too. I believe so far what the town says, that Admiral Russell did not seek title, or to be one of our justices, but I do not like to say it was crammed down his throat: marks of good princes' favours should be received with some easiness, though our natures do not incline to it, and where there is merit so notorious, it cannot be rejected, if well thought on. The carrier has stopped under my window.

I am, Sir, your true friend.

For Mr. Thornton,  
at Bedford House.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE LADY ROOS.

Friday, May 3rd, 1697.

THE reports we had on all hands from London, how very ill Lord Rutland was, made me more desirous to receive a letter from yourself, though I could believe nothing of it because Molesworth

1697. had one from Pulse, which must be of as late a date as any could come to London by the post. It was Mr. Thornton by Lord Bedford's order first sent me how he had been alarmed by the Duke of Somerset, who told him. Mr. Aires said my Lord was taken with a dead palsy, and Lady Northumberland said a fit of apoplexy, but yours, as I guess, written on Sunday, 25th April (for it has no date), gives me full satisfaction of the falseness of the reports, which now I can contradict. I should hope this warm weather will conduce to the wearing of those pains he is troubled with, and sure never was hotter in the month of April and beginning of May. My cabin is an arrant oven, yet our kind cousin will make Lady Margaret come, and is often pressing to have a day named; she has put it off to the middle of May; by that time we may be more temperate, or cold, perhaps, again. You had a lucky season, I think, to take your journey in. I am very glad our dear master continues so well; variety of airs does him no hurt. Pray say in your next if you are still as sick as you were; and I would hear how fond Lord Rutland is of our little man. I have fretted mightily; I missed his picture, for here was one in town all the while, who give the knowing here great expectation that he will be famous. He was some time with Sir Godfrey (Kneller),<sup>1</sup> and

<sup>1</sup> Most probably Jervas, who was a pupil of Sir Godfrey Kneller, and studied at Rome. There are several portraits from his pencil in the collection at Woburn Abbey.

is now going to spend some time abroad to see 1697. and improve; he cares not leave anything of his work behind, but the bishop who brought him down can make him; he has learning and languages, so means to be a complete artist. I have done nothing about your things, because you say positively you do not care they should come with all your other things, so I defer till I hear again from you. I cannot imagine but Lady Devon or Miss Carter from her will take care enough of the things; she always kept her own when she had any, and they will be in a very little box, and will be in the coach with them; all the fear I have is they may be robbed sooner than a carrier. Your sister writ once, as I think I sent you word, but I never heard since from her, but Spencer heard from Knox that Lady Devon told her lady she went three weeks hence, now it must be a fortnight. I hear from Mr. Hoskins, the trial for the house is to be next Thursday. Lady Digby has another son. My service to all your company, particularly Lord Roos.

I am your affectionate mother.

Spencer has been at Stratton, where he entertained the farmers, who had given me a day of ploughing; so a fiddle was had, and your nursery-maid danced very briskly.

For the Right Honble.  
the Lady Roos, at Hadden.

## LADY RUSSELL TO MR. THORNTON.

1697. I SHALL scribble this in so very much haste, that it shall not be addressed to my Lord Duke, but do, Sir, acquaint him that Lady Sunderland and all the French company came to this town on Tuesday; that night we did not meet, only as Lady Sunderland's coach went by my door; it stopped, and I spoke to her, but we were all day, both Wednesday and Thursday together. I saw more sights waiting upon her than I meant to have done at Oxford. I hear she went this morning about seven o'clock out of town, back to Althrope; Lady Clincarte<sup>1</sup> was of the party also; our French friends are also gone to London early this morning; but Mr. Hoskins and his lady will stay till next week. My little box, you well know, had not much vacant room when all the good company was in it; but the commons was college manner, so I took it should not stink of meat too much. My young man never failed us, dinner nor supper; but Lady Sunderland scolded much at the black gown, so yesterday the coloured was put on, but with black clothes under, which was all wrong, she said; but the French folks were so resolved to please him, that they approved his modesty and care not to exceed others in this place.

I am glad the pictures are so liked. My letter is called for. I must end.

<sup>1</sup> Clancarty.

## LADY RUSSELL TO MR. THORNTON.

London, July 29th, 1697.

I THANK you, sir, for the very good report you 1697. gave me of my Lord Duke's journey to Woburn, and in return, I choose to send to you the best news we have in town. A mail came in to-day, which brings confirmations of all the good we have heard, and no bad. The King is gone to Loo, which alone (I think) signifies a great deal. My Lord Spencer was with me this afternoon, and tells me that while he was at the Secretary's office, Sir Robert Cotton came in, and told him he had by this mail received a letter from Wisson<sup>1</sup> (I know not if I spell it right); a great man they say he is. He writes thus: That the peace<sup>2</sup> is actually done between Holland, England, and France; the King of Spain will have all he desires; but there remains some little difficulty with the Emperor, whether he will have Strasbourg

<sup>1</sup> Sir Joseph Williamson is most probably here intended. He was one of the King's plenipotentiaries, with the Earl of Pembroke and Lord Villiers, and Prior as secretary, at the conferences which ended in the treaty of Ryswick. Sir Joseph was son of a clergyman in Cumberland; soon after the Restoration he was recommended to the Earl of Arlington, who employed him in translating and writing memorials in French. From this humble beginning he elevated himself to the highest posts of government. He was knighted in 1677. He married the sister and sole heiress of Charles, Duke of Richmond. William III. confided in him. He died in 1701.

<sup>2</sup> The peace of Ryswick, signed October 30, 1697.



1697. or an equivalent. Our King has sent to him, and gives him a month to fix his resolution. Barcelona<sup>1</sup> holds out, and he adds, that he believes the French King has sent orders to Vendosme to withdraw his forces, in case the town be not in his hands; and also, that he has sent to all his ports that there be no act of hostility committed. It is also verily believed by this day's letters, that Nevill has met with Pointis.<sup>2</sup> In this treaty the French King does bind himself, his heirs and successors, to maintain friendship with King William, as King of Great Britain and Ireland, in all the rights and privileges, and in the same manner as he stands now possessed.

They say that in a few days the King goes to Hansberdike,<sup>3</sup> and that the French plenipotentiaries are to attend him, and compliment him there. The

<sup>1</sup> Barcelona, besieged by Vendosme, surrendered Aug. 15, 1697.

<sup>2</sup> Admiral Nevill, who commanded in the West Indies, fell in with the French commander, Pointis—the result was not very glorious to the English arms. The miscarriage at sea created much dissatisfaction at this time, and Tindal insinuates made the nation anxious for peace. “Since it appears now that the French are seriously disposed to continue the negotiations, we must not lose an instant, but, as the proverb says, ‘Strike the iron while it is hot.’ The unfortunate loss of Barcelona, at this particular time, as well as the escape of Pointis, may perhaps be the cause of this extraordinary conduct on the part of the French, and may prevent the conclusion of the peace, which I thought certain.”—WILLIAM III. Letters edited by Paul Grimblot, vol. i. pp. 39–61.

<sup>3</sup> Honsleerdick is most probably here intended, a seat of King William's in Holland; it would appear to have been celebrated for its orange trees, as in a letter from Bentinck (then Earl of Portland) to King William, he writes—“The orange trees at Versailles are extremely large and fine, and very numerous; the stems are lofty and beautiful, but the crowns are not like those of *Honsleerdick*.”—GRIMBLOT, vol. i. p. 122.

Czar of Muscovy<sup>1</sup> is coming to see Holland, and, 1697. when he is there, the King will return to the army on purpose to show it him himself. It is not doubted but he will make the King a visit at London, when it pleases God to bring him there. I think I have poured out all the knowledge I have got this day, and if I can entertain good Mr. Thornton and his friends I have my end. My Lord Duke, I suppose, wants not my intelligence; if he does, you have it at his service, and my son's, for I have not written to him,

I remain, Sir,  
Your sincere friend to serve you.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO THE LADY ROOS.

Saturday, Aug. 21, 1697.

YOUR sister is very well, and hopes you are near setting out; indeed, it ought to be so; for we have had so much wet, it is not to be hoped the ways will be good any more, but still worse. I had no letter

<sup>1</sup> He came to England, where King William, who had already received him with great attention in Holland, again gave him a courteous reception. On his return he carried with him several English ship-builders, as well as a magnificent yacht, a present from the king. Burnet said he was a man of brutal passion, and gives a most unfavourable character of him; but Lord Hardwicke says he made a very wrong judgment of him. He was lodged at Sayes Court, the seat of Evelyn, who mentions, as one of the Czar's amusements, forcing a wheel-barrow through a fine yew hedge that adorned his grounds.—*History of His Own Times*, vol. ii. p. 397.

.1697. yesterday from you. I wrote last post to your brother, not to you. Now it is to you, and not him. A short one shall serve, since I guess your time is not easy to get, either to write or read. Lady Normanby<sup>1</sup> was buried yesterday two miles beyond Windsor, without pomp. The Lord is gone with Lady Derby to a little place she has in the country; but now the funeral is passed, come to her house in our square, till Berkeley House is divided. Lady Ossery told Lady Devon that witch was a useful companion for a widower, there being many pretty women thereabouts. The Czar affords talk, your Duke Zal(?) treated him highly, and the Duchess, and Duchess Brandenburg, incognito. I stood behind his chair at dinner, upon which he spit often, and when he had eat as much as he would he whistled, and then one of his attendants brought a broom and swept the room. He bought a ship at Amsterdam, and made himself a cabin very convenient. He works carpenter's work exceeding well. I am hastening to my work, sitting by your sister. Lady Sunder is to be admitted to piquette this evening. My service to lords and ladies.

I am ever

Your affectionate Mother.

For the Right Honble. the Lady Roos,  
at Hadden, in Derbyshire.

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps Ursula, daughter of Colonel Stawel, widow of the Earl of Conway, first wife of John, Marquis of Normanby; afterwards, in the reign of Queen Anne, Duke of Normanby and Buckingham.

DUKE OF BEDFORD TO LADY RUSSELL.<sup>1</sup>

Woburn Abbey, Octr. 16th, 1697.

DEAR DAUGHTER,

These are to let you know, that their bearer, Mr. 1697. Hicks,<sup>2</sup> came on Wednesday hither, in expectation of meeting master (Lord Tavistock) here; and how well pleased I was with his company and conversation: looking upon him to be as deserving a person as you could have made choice of, to go abroad with my dear grand-child. In confidence not only of his great kindness to him, but also of his utmost care and diligence for his best improvement, I have laid strict injunctions upon him, to follow his advice in all things that concern his soul and body. My Lord Roos and he came hither on Friday night, after long expectation; and I am glad to see him look so very well of it. They intend to be with you on Monday night, God willing.

I must confess it is a very great trial for me to part with one so dear to me as he is. But I hope God Almighty will hear your hearty prayers and mine, and those of his other friends, by watching over him abroad, and with his good hand of Providence, that you and all of his relations may have

<sup>1</sup> From Miss Berry's Memoir.

<sup>2</sup> Travelling tutor to Lord Tavistock; a few of his letters to Mr. Thornton, during their travels, are among the MSS. at Woburn Abbey; they are very uninteresting.

1697. the comfort of seeing him again. If God give me life till his return, it will add much to the joy of it, though I dare not promise myself that mercy, considering my declining age and infirmities.

I do reckon you will send him to the Hague this winter, for his improvement in his exercises; and if things be quiet in France, that he may go thither for some time, to his further improvement and satisfaction: after which, to return home to the comfort of you and his friends. As for his travelling into Italy, I am much against it, for several reasons. I hope you will not let him stay very long abroad.

So, with my constant and fervent prayers to God Almighty for him and yourself, with your other dear relations, I rest (not without some sadness at parting),

Your most affectionate Father and Friend,  
to my last moment,

BEDFORD.

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LADY RUSSELL TO MR. THORNTON.

Tuesday.

GOOD Mr. Thornton's letter was filled with many good things and acceptable accounts; the chief my Lord Duke's, being so well as I left him, and the ladies too. I did not write on Saturday by that post, being very busy to dispatch Spencer. I find,

sir, that you had a purpose to write by him, but 1697.  
you delayed too long; however, it will go as well  
by post, and my Lord Duke's is enough for one  
time; yours, which is full of good counsel, had  
better succeed it; and come, when he will be at  
more leisure, after all the questions that are to be  
asked Spencer are past, and those letters read.  
Pray, sir, let my Lord Duke know I have a letter  
from Mr. Hicks, of the 26th. I praise God my  
son continued then well; the weather was hot, he  
said, which many wished cooler, lest it should  
increase distempers; it is so here, and I hope the  
like there. We know no news here but by the  
prints, at least I do not, if Sir James tells me  
none, nobody else does, and at this he is very much  
taken up at Mr. Hasard's, where Lord Exeter is,  
and his lady daughter and two sons; they came on  
Thursday last from Lady Brownlowe's, where they  
saw their son married, and put to bed, and then, at  
four in the morning, went to dinner to Burly, seven-  
teen miles off; my Lady got somebody to play, sat  
up all night, so did the same at the inn the next  
night, and on Saturday came to the aforesaid Mr.  
Hasard's, and this morning set forth for Dover: he  
says he will not lie at Paris, but two miles off it,  
at St. Denis, and there take up Lady Salisbury, to  
add to their train, which Sir James says is thirty  
horse, yet my Lord is to save money by the journey.  
My daughter Hartington holds out very well, and I  
believe will do so yet some time. I know not that

1697. I shall get any more to say, so send it in the morning. Going for the first time to dine with Lady Devonshire. My duty, pray sir, to my Lord Duke, and service to the ladies most kindly. I am ever to good Mr. Thornton a friend to serve him.

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## LADY LETITIA RUSSELL TO MR. THORNTON.

Octr. 30.

IF I had not been prevented by company the last post, I had returned good Mr. Thornton many thanks for his obliging letter, and also for the inclosed in Mr. Shut's behalf, to Mr. Whitting, who has done him great service in Whitechapel; and I hope you will return my humble thanks to my Lord Duke, for the great favour of his recommendation, which I hope will be a very great means of his getting his business finished. The progress of their rector will be this next week, and he has great hopes of his side; indeed, if I am not very much mistaken, he is a very good man, and a very fine preacher, otherwise I should not have petitioned his Grace in his behalf. I should be very glad to hear when your time was fixed for London, for I never think Covent Garden looks well, till I see Bedford House full of candles. I suppose you know of Mr. How's being married to a great fortune, and also that her daughter is to marry Mr.

Howison, who is a lawyer, so that she will enrich 1697. him and his family. This day dined Dr. Hancock<sup>1</sup> with us, and told the ill news that his friends feared after all his charge of searching for a salt brine in Cheshire, that it will come to nothing, which I am extremely sorry for, having so great a charge of children, it would have been a good provision. I give you a hundred thanks for your kind wishes to my son. I hope in God by the next mail, to hear he has got over his very dangerous fever, though he has had another little relapse, by venturing upon grapes unknown to his governor; but I hope God will give him a heart to be thankful all his life, for a greater recovery was never heard of. The wind being westerly, we cannot yet hear how Lord Tavistock passed his voyage, but I hope in God very well, for the weather and wind were very fine for him. My Lord and self desire you will present our humble duty to his Grace. We rejoice to hear he holds so well, and hope he will continue so in his journey. I will now end this, when I have assured you nobody is a more humble servant than

L. R.

<sup>1</sup> Most probably Dr. Hancock, rector of St. Margaret's, Lothbury, and prebendary of Canterbury; he published several sermons, and a pamphlet on a febrifuge water, which has most probably some reference to the "salt brine" mentioned.



## LADY RUSSELL TO LADY DE ROOS.

1697. I HAVE received all your letters to the last from Rome, the 20th of August. I think I sent you word so, and repeated in my cousin's hand out of some? If not all well makes me say no more now, because I know not how far I went, but all is but repeating new honours and civilities. Mr. Sherard<sup>1</sup> says the prints and news-letters are full of it in Italy, and every letter of your brother's laments his leaving it; but Mr. Morin, the goldsmith, had two lines in a letter from Sir Robert Worsley's brother pleases me more than all. His letter is business, but he ends it thus: I must end this abruptly, for my Lord Tavistock calls me to go with him and take the air. He has all the honours shown his stop here that is imaginable, and he deserves them all, for a finer gentleman<sup>2</sup> there cannot be. Poor

<sup>1</sup> A gentleman who had accompanied Lord Townshend on his travels, and who joined Lord Tavistock at Hamburg. Admitted into the best foreign society at home, Lord Tavistock talks, with much enjoyment, of the amusements of which he partakes there during the summer of 1698. "The great pleasure now is, to be in one of the open caleches, going about the town in the moonshiny nights. There are always some fine serenades, and all the best company in town taking the air till an hour after midnight. I seldom fail of this diversion, and, indeed, it is mighty pleasant, after the heat of the day, to be abroad so most part of the night, and to hear music, and to go talk to anybody that one is acquainted with, with all the freedom in the world."—*Miss Berry's Memoir*, p. 136.

<sup>2</sup> Lord Tavistock continued so much pleased with this residence, and his way of life, that after a short visit to Naples in the autumn, he re-

Morin was overjoyed. I could go no further by 1699.  
daylight, and durst do no more by a candle, but  
sign

Your affectionate mother.

For the Right Honble. the  
Lady Roos, at Hadden.

## LADY RUSSELL TO MR. THORNTON.

July 16, 1699.

I WAS surprised to hear by you, good Sir, that my  
Lord Duke has been so much out of order, and I  
heartily thank you for being so particular in your  
information to me. It was sure a safe advice of the  
Doctor that my Lord should stay another week be-

turned to pass the whole winter and carnival at Rome. An Italian com-  
position, "Il Tamigi Guilivo," in his honour, is printed in Wiffen's  
Memoirs of the House of Russell, vol. ii. p. 302.<sup>a</sup> "The expense," says  
Miss Berry, "entailed by his mode of living would have startled a less  
liberal mother than Lady Russell."

<sup>a</sup> We give, as a specimen, the first canzone :—

" Amidst those plants sublime  
Of an illustrious and heroic stem,  
Which, with their flower-buds charming all the clime,  
Form for my regal brows a diadem—  
This grateful scion, that so freshly towers  
From the great Russell stock, whose worth is known  
To the wide nations, has delightful flowers,  
Sweet fruits, and boughs luxuriant of its own."

1699. fore he took his journey, and now his looseness is stopped I hope it will rather be of good to him than harm, though it were much more to be desired that he would not put Nature to such struggle to relieve herself. It is certainly very great strength of constitution that can overcome with no worse complaints—the present weather ought also add to his faintness, and keep him weak I doubt. I could almost be sorry my Lord had sat for his picture, for fear it is a trouble, and makes him weary: also I extremely desire it for my best room as its best ornament. I believe my son is very sincere in all he says of his great inclination to wait on his, and to do it at Woburn too: I trust in God he will do it in a few months, for after he is got to Paris, if he is desirous to come to us, I do not see any good reason we should refuse him, unless it is a bad time of year for one has lived so long in the heats of Italy to come into England near the winter. Pray hear what the Doctor thinks of that matter, if it should happen he should have a mind to come after he has been some time at Paris, which few people expect he will, France being an idol, much abused.

I am glad to hear my Lord Robert and his lady are so pretty well again.

The Duke of Bolton came very kindly and dined with us. His Duchess is coming over; Lord Hartington went on Tuesday to the New Forest to meet the company assembled there. Upon the commissioners coming down, whom the Parliament appointed

to inspect the forest, and inclose as they found fit, 1699. in order to plant and preserve the wood. Sir James Forbes is still with us: he is gone to-day to dine with the Dean of Winchester and his lady, who is Doctor Colidor's (?) sister. Roos sends me word Lady How has a son, to Sir Scroope's<sup>1</sup> great joy, no doubt. Our boy here is mighty well, I bless God he has cut an upper tooth when we knew nothing of it: he is a goodly child, indeed, and entertains the whole house, for a better humour there cannot be.

The best directions now to my son will be to Paris.

A Monsieur,  
Monsieur le Marquis de Tavistock,  
chez Monsieur Claude Tourton,  
Ban<sup>er</sup>. a Paris.

I have kept my letter open till the post has come in without any letters from abroad, so my humble duty to my Lord shall close this. I mention no more about the deer, because my lord saying nothing to it, I conclude he has none he can conveniently spare; and my neighbours are very kind in offering to spare me some of theirs, and I intend to begin with a few.

I am, sir, your friend to serve you.

<sup>1</sup> Scroope, created by King William III. Baron and Viscount Howe, of Clenawly, in the kingdom of Ireland, in 1701; married Juliana, daughter of William Lord Allington, of Horseheath, his second wife, and by her had an only son and heir, Scroope, second Viscount.

## LADY RUSSELL TO THE LADY ROOS.

Woburn, Sept. 10, 1699. Sunday.

1699. I CAME to Woburn, Friday the 8th, and met a letter of yours here without a date. You say you had the day before a letter from your sister, who told you I had sent you news of your brother, but you wanted the letter: I hope it came the next post, however it is now no great matter, for I can send you better. I met letters here, that himself, Mr. Sherard, and a footman, were got to Paris by the diligence, and Mr. Hicks and the baggage were to come a slower way. They came the 10th to Paris, and wrote the 12th and 13th September, but nothing of the small-pox yet had been alarmed at . . . , just as we were here that it raged furiously; but by inquiry of such as came from Paris they found no cause to put off their journey, nor could know more certainly till they got to Paris. Your brother has got very good lodgings he says, and near Lord Manchester. He says, although he has seen much and fine places, yet he could not but be surprised at the sight of Paris;<sup>1</sup> it is so goodly. Mr. Sherard tells me he has taken

<sup>1</sup> The following extract from a letter to Mr. Thornton from Mr. Hetherington may not be uninteresting. "Since the king has been at Versailles, most of the Court are returned to Paris, and make magnificent figures here. 'Tis diverting to see the poor rogues, that have drank water for so many years, go now reeling about the streets of Paris; those that have stocks of old wines sell them off at low prices,

the lodgings for two months, and by that time the 1699. young Lord will know if he could have those longer, which he fancies he will, and says Lord Manchester tells him he cannot part with him till the end of February, and so he will write me word, but when they have been there a week or two we shall guess better. I find your grandfather finely well; he eats very well and sleeps so too, but goes weak in his legs. I find your merry ladies have left you that very day you wrote, but that your gamesters remain by you yet.

For the Right Honble. the Lady Roos,  
at Hadden.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO MR. THORNTON.

Wednesday morning.

BEING yesterday pretty late at Barkly House I did not read your letter, but this morning, I am sure, I am pleased, when I please my Duke, so am glad I sent the groom, the post-day being so far off made me do it. I shall with gladness communicate your letter by and by. I wrote in Rachel's chamber by the post last night at large to my sister Alinton, so can say no more this morning, but that I hope night was well passed over by mother and child. I inclose the letter I received yesterday

that they may fill their cellars with this year's wines, that are so much better than the old."

1699. from Mr. Hicks, but desire your excuse I have not sent back his last to you. Hartington would fain hear it read, and has not been able yet to do it. I foolishly forgot to put it or my son's into my pocket when I went, but thought only of the new one, which I desire back by the carrier, for I think it is worth being read by two or three friends, and then I lay it up. I think my son is too much touched with the ill tongues of envy, but the effect it produces is good, and I thankfully bless God for his so Christian thoughts and professions, and hope his constancy, but I do not show his letter but to very few, for certainly here is yet no such report or rumour as he fears and suspects there may be; and I am now very curious to hearken, and I think unless there were or till there is, it is better to be silent too, for people will be apt to think something is the matter when a justification is in hand going about. I thank God we have it ready if there should be cause; but Lord Hartington says this way is common in those parts, some knavish Papist or other sets it about. I find fault my son names anybody, and pray, sir, forget he does, and never speak it. You will find I have blotted all that out of the letter, so that even when I shall now carry it to Rachel she shall not find the names of anybody. I hope my Lord Duke will think I have done well, and my sister Alinton too; and so nobody besides knowing it, it can go no further. I have warned my son, and commend Mr. Hicks for his cautious

LADY RUSSELL TO THE DUKE OF BEDFORD. 161

writing. Why should ill-blood be bred? I venture 1699.  
to send also my son's to Lord Orford, Lord Orford  
sent it me to read: I know it will please my Lord  
Duke; but be sure I have it again by the carrier,  
for I would keep it.

So, I fear being late, my duty and services to the  
ladies, concludes this from your constant friend.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE DUKE OF BEDFORD.

1699.

MY LORD,

I beg your Grace's patience to read, rather than  
to hear me speak, for fear of being heard; and  
what I have to say, I extremely desire may be a  
secret, it being highly to my son's advantage it  
should be so. I do affirm this, my Lord, that no  
child you have is more tender than I am to tell you  
anything that may trouble or discompose you. I  
hope what I have to say will not, when you have  
well considered my proposal. But first I must  
open the case.

Your grandson, although he has not lost at play  
as the world has taxed him, nor anything at all at  
Paris, yet, my Lord, he has been so faulty as to  
play in Italy for bigger sums than he ought to  
have done, and has been so unfortunate as to lose;  
and, not to mince the matter to your Grace, who  
ought to be told the truth, he has lost from the  
time he went out of England, to the time he came



1699. to Paris, three thousand pounds, and some odd hundreds. He is so afflicted for this folly, I dare not aggravate his trouble. He dreads your Grace's knowing of it; and he might certainly have prevailed with me to have kept his secret, if I could have preserved his honour, and have done it. I do all I can to assure him your indulgence will not suffer you to be sharp in your anger, when that can bring no remedy. The fault is committed; and, if he keep steady to his resolutions, I hope the grief he has felt will be for his future good, all the rest of his life. But the business now is, how to pay the money, and do it so secretly, that the inquisitive town shall not make it their talk and scorn, and he be exposed, as he calls it, as an easy gentleman, that can be cheated of his money. Your grandson has been so cunning in managing this matter, that Mr. Sherard does not know of more money lost than between four or five hundred pounds. Mr. Hicks knows of near a thousand; and he came to the knowledge of that sum by seeing the poor young creature so sad and oppressed, and so sunk with it, that he really feared his life; which made him beg so hard to know what afflicted him so heavily, that at last he confessed the truth, crying out for the sorrow he should give his parents. Mr. Hicks was so compassionate and generous as to be bound for the money; and so it was kept a secret. Your Grace nor I were not to know it; and Mr. Hicks now stands bound for it.

I know your Grace is paying a great deal of 1699. money for Lord Robert,<sup>1</sup> and cannot, if you would, give him the money: but there is no cause to ask it; if your Grace will but give me credit, I will not doubt to overcome the business to his comfort. Your Grace knows my estate is settled; I kept a power to charge it, but have taken up as much as I can, and be honest. So if I could find credit, I dare not use it, since I should not live or die with comfort: and, besides that, all writings, since my father died to this time, must be considered by the lawyers; and that will make a great noise.

Now, I propose this: that my son and myself shall be principals in a bond for 3000*l*. I will find the money; and if your Grace will join as surety with us, I cannot but hope to compass it; and without you grant to do so, I am at my wit's end what to do. To the best of my judgment, your Grace can never have any more trouble than to sign the bond. If my son and myself live, our rents will, in some reasonable time, pay it off: if I die, what I leave is engaged, and my son bound also. If he outlive your Grace, it will be paid, where it properly ought to be, out of his own estate. If my son should die, my estate will then return to me, and be unsettled; so I should be but too well enabled to pay it; and I being principal, your Grace but surety, it can at no time

<sup>1</sup> Lord Robert Russell, his fourth son. He married Letitia, widow of Thomas Cheek, Esq., and died without children.

1699. come to be paid by you. I thought, after having struggled through so great a debt as your excellent son left me to pay, and without even having any friend bound for me, I hoped, I say, I should never have asked it; but it is God's will it should be as it is: and who should I apply to besides yourself? If you will be so good to pity him, and be bound with him and me, it will be an unspeakable consolation to him and me, and preserve his credit. If your Grace dares trust me, none but Spencer shall know of the money being taken up; nor he shall not how it is laid out, but that your Grace helps us for present use. If you refuse, I know not what to do, but must try my friends; for I must, if it be possible, help my child this one time, and no more. I hope I have expressed myself that your Grace may understand my meaning to be this:—I will find the 3000*l.* and be bound, and also my son, only to give us credit, I beg your Grace will be so good as to be bound with us: it will give a mighty ease to the mind of your dutiful daughter.<sup>1</sup>

Friday, December 22nd, 1699.

<sup>1</sup> "Of the extent of his losses at play Lady Russell was not aware till his return to England towards the end of the year 1699, when she found the amount so considerable as to oblige her to address herself to her grandfather to assist her as a security in raising money. The considerate manner in which she addresses the Duke, and in which she speaks of the errors of the young, is a sufficient reason for the affectionate confidence placed in her by both."—*Note in Miss Berry's Memoir.*

## LADY RUSSELL TO LADY ROOS.

Thursday. 1700.

I HAD written Thursday, with intentions to have gone on with my letter, but, being prevented till daylight was gone, am forced by another hand to tell you that I have received yours, and shall be very glad to have two or three lines every post till your child is well again, though I hope all danger is over. Your sister has dined here to-day, and seems very well if she takes no cold to-day. Lord Bedford came last night to town very well. The letters due on Tuesday from France are not yet come in, but your brother was so well in the last that I have no solicitude about it. The marriage I sent you word of last week takes up the talk, that it hardly gives place to the ball. Your aunt Anglesea<sup>1</sup> made me a visit this afternoon, and tells her story how on Monday her son came to beg her pardon that he was married (as he was on Saturday), and had not told her. She replied, "My dear, I forgive you, and wish you well and her too, and if I meet her in a third place, I shall use her with the respect due to your lady, but I never desire to see her in my house." My lord

<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth, daughter of the Duke of Rutland, married James, Earl of Anglesey: the marriage in question was most probably that of her eldest son, James, to Catherine, natural daughter of King James II., by Catherine, daughter of Sir Charles Sedley, Baronet.

1700. asked her if he might come to her house; she said, "Yes, my dear, I have not the heart to forbid you, nor any child of mine, nor have any objection to the person of your wife, but for one circumstance, and that I cannot excuse." Then she continued, saying how he had often asked her advice, and she had always told him if he pleased himself she should be pleased, whether she had fortune or no fortune, quality or no other quality than being born a gentlewoman, but she desires she might be one might bring no blot or stain upon her family; this he had disobeyed, and that was her grief. Lady Dorchester's passion seems to be weaker; she told Mrs. Vernon though she would take her own time to see her daughter, she would take it kindly if anybody else that did and has seen. My Lord Anglesea and his bride has given new life to the ball, for now she dances, so does Lady Essex; Lady Betty Cavendish ever designed it, and some say the Duchess of St. Albans, Lady Standly, Mrs. Godfrey, &c. If more matter of this kind, my letter should be longer. I hear this afternoon that Lady Gilford is so ill they think she won't live. I have not forgot the elder water, but cannot get it yet; the Duchess of Somerset gave it my daughter; she meant to try to-day if Lady Darby could help her to it. Has Lady Catharine tried the bath? it cured me of a colick in the stomach that nothing else in seven years had done.

## LADY RUSSELL TO KING WILLIAM.

*Endorsed by Lady Russell:—*“ My letter to the 1700. King, some days after Lord Bedford died, which was on 7th September, 1700.”<sup>1</sup>

I AM first to ask your Majesty's pardon for the liberty I take to trouble you with a letter; but I think it a duty incumbent upon me, after acquainting your Majesty of the Duke of Bedford's death, as he has left me his executor; his George is in my custody, and I beg to receive your Majesty's commands, whether it be your pleasure that my son should immediately bring it over to you, or that it shall remain in my possession, till we are blessed with your Majesty's return to England. My ignorance in things of this nature makes me presume to beg the honour of your commands, that I may not be wanting in the duty and respect that I shall always pay to your Majesty: and since, Sir, I presume on your goodness to forgive a woman's troubling you, be pleased to permit me, with great submission to your better determination, to make a

<sup>1</sup> The Duke of Bedford died in his eighty-seventh year, and was interred in the family vault of Chenies. A funeral sermon was preached by Dr. Freeman, at the desire of the King. The sermon, as already mentioned, was printed. Lady Orford, in a letter to Mr. Thornton says, “ He wants us no more, though all that knew him must always miss him.”

1700. request in favour of my son, that if you would please to think him worthy of the honour to wear a Garter<sup>1</sup> his grandfather so long enjoyed, not only my son, but I know the whole family would always look upon it as a mark of your grace and favour to them; and if anything could make them show a greater zeal for your service than they now do, it would be the honour you bestow on this young man, who, I hope, will live to serve your Majesty with a duty and faithfulness becoming the son of such a grandfather, and father. And here, Sir, I must put a conclusion to my letter, still begging your Majesty's pardon, if I have presumed to do what I ought not to have done; and that you will please to look upon me as the most faithful of

Your Majesty's

Most obedient subjects and servants.

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LADY RUSSELL TO LADY GRANBY.

Tuesday, Nov. 2.

I KNOW you will be glad to be assured your brother is well at Southampton House; he came between three and four o'clock, before we had dined. I troubled you to read to little purpose, but I did not dream of his coming till after I had

<sup>1</sup> The order was conferred upon him.

written. He says his tongue is sore still, but he is 1700. very well, he says, but was very foolish, I think, not to bleed after his fall. I know not, till I have seen your brother, where I am to direct this, but I suppose Loffnam<sup>1</sup> is not to be left so soon, but this will find you there, where you will want no news that I can write. The Queen visits St. James's to see her building, but returns to Kensington; sees no company. She cannot set her foot to the ground; has a chair made so well that it is lifted with her in it into the coach, and then she moves herself to the seat, and the chair taken away. Some fancy the Parliament will be adjourned for some days; some think otherwise, but certainly the Queen intends to get to the House. Lord Marlborough and Lord Portland came on Friday or Saturday, but our King of Spain is not like to come this fortnight. The Dutch not ready. I doubt so far I had written before dinner, and if Sir James be a good author, I was wrong about our King of Spain, for Lord Marlborough says he meant, if the wind was fair, to set sail this very day. The sword the said lord had presented him is the neatest thing was ever seen, and is very rich too; the top is one entire diamond. The Duke of Somerset is in town, but upon the wing. When Sir George Rook gives notice where the King is like to land. I will take care about the bottle of Lady Allen's water, which I am sorry I forgot, and you

<sup>1</sup> Luffenham, Rutlandshire.



1700. could not remember; but your Ladyship has also forgot to give me an answer about the pearl, or to send it. It is post time, so this must be ended.

For the Right Honble.  
the Lady Granby.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO KING WILLIAM.

SIR,

I rather choose to trouble your Majesty with a letter, than be wanting in my duty, in the most submissive manner imaginable, to acknowledge the honour and favour I am told your Majesty designs for Lord Rutland and his family, in which I am so much interested.

It is an act of great goodness, Sir, in you; and the generous manner you have been pleased to promise it in, makes the honour, if possible, greater. As you will lay an eternal obligation on that family, be pleased to allow me to answer for all those I am related to; they will look on themselves equally honoured with Lord Rutland, by your favour to his family, and I am sure will express their acknowledgments to your Majesty in the most dutiful manner, to the best of their services; in which I earnestly desire my son Bedford may exceed, as he has been first, and early honoured with the marks of your favour. And I hope I may live to see your Majesty has bestowed one more upon him,

who appears to me to have no other ambition, except 1703. what he prefers above all others, making himself acceptable to your Majesty, and living in your good opinion.

I presume to say, I believe there is no fault in his intentions of duty towards your Majesty, nor, I trust, ever will be; and that, as his years increase, his performances will better declare the faithfulness of his mind, which will hugely enlarge the comforts of

Your Majesty's most humble, most dutiful,  
and most obedient servant.

Lady Russell's endorsement on the foregoing letter is in these words: "To the King, 1701-2, about first of March, and found in his pocket when dead."

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LADY RUSSELL TO LADY GRANBY.

Tuesday, 1703.

I HAVE been under great anxiety, so till the post came yesterday, for though Belvoir is so strong a building, I feared accidents there as little as anywhere; yet so many fatal and dismal ones have fallen upon so many, that would justify a mighty apprehension. I bless God we are all well; but the chimney, where my son and his wife lay, fell, and the bricks and soot coming down the chimney, made them rise at six o'clock, and come to my drawing room; the wall of the garden fell next the

1703. field, and all the trees beat one side to the very ground; but at Stretton my loss is worse in all respects, my farms torn to pieces, corn and hay dispersed, seen hanging on the trees, and among trees near the house, the fir grove, as Richard writes, entirely broken and torn up by the roots. I send Spencer to-morrow to see if it is in nature possible to get up but a row round the ground. Hampshire is all desolation; Devon House escaped better than any house I hear of. Many killed in country as well as in town.<sup>1</sup> Lady Penelopie [Wichlesse?] killed in her bed at their country house, and he, in the same bed, found a piece of timber falling between his legs, and kept off the bricks, but it is innumerable the mischiefs and the preservations; sea matters yet too uncertain. So certain Beaumont is lost, and wonderfully lamented, and five ships upon the sand. No news that is to be relied on of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, and we sorry your Lord lost his match; but really the present calamity takes up all my thoughts. It is time to dine, so must end this

From your affectionate Mother.

<sup>1</sup> The storm here alluded to is most probably the "Great Storm" of 1703—one of the most terrible that ever raged in England. The loss sustained in London alone was calculated at 2,000,000*l.* sterling. The number of persons drowned in the floods of the Severn and Thames, and lost on the coast of Holland, and in ships blown from their anchors and never heard of afterwards, is thought to have been 8000. Twelve men-of-war, with more than 1800 men on board, were lost within sight of their own shore. Trees were torn up by their roots, 17,000 of them in Kent alone. It was in this storm that the Bishop of Bath and Wells and his lady were killed in bed, at their palace in Wells.

LADY RUSSELL TO HER SON THE DUKE OF  
BEDFORD.

Stratton, July, 1706.

WHEN I take my pen to write this, I am, by the 1706. goodness and mercy of God, in a moderate and easy state of health—a blessing I have thankfully felt through the course of a long life, which (with a much greater help,) the contemplation of a more durable state, has maintained and upheld me through varieties of providences and conditions<sup>1</sup> of life. But all the delights and sorrows of this mixed state must end; and I feel the decays that attend old age creep so fast on me,<sup>2</sup> that, although I may yet get over some more years, however, I ought to make it my frequent meditation, that the day is near, when this earthly tabernacle shall be dissolved, and my immortal spirit be received into that place of purity where no unclean thing can enter; there to sing eternal praises to the great Creator of all things. With the Psalmist, I believe, “at his right hand there are pleasures for evermore:” and what is good and of eternal duration, must be joyful above what we can conceive; as what is evil and of like

<sup>1</sup> “Lady Russell now saw her son established in all the honours of his race, with a wife who seems to have justified the choice she had made for him, and by whom he was the happy father of several children.”—*Miss Berry*.

<sup>2</sup> Lady Russell was now past seventy years of age.

1706. duration, must be despairingly miserable. And now, my dear child, I pray, I beseech you, I conjure you, my loved son, consider what there is of felicity in this world, that can compensate the hazard of losing an everlasting easy being; and then deliberately weigh, whether or no the delights and gratifications of a vicious or idle course of life are such, that a wise or thoughtful man would choose or submit to. Again, fancy its enjoyments at the height imagination can propose or suggest (which yet rarely or never happens, or if it does, as a vapour soon vanishes); but let us grant it could, and last to fourscore years, is this more than the quickest thought to eternity? Oh, my child! fix on that word, eternity! Old Hobbes,<sup>1</sup> with all his fancied strength of reason, could never endure to rest or stay upon that thought; but ran from it to some miserable amusement. I remember to have read of some man, who reading in the Bible something that checked him, he threw it on the ground; the book fell open, and his eye fixed on the word eternity, which so struck upon his mind, that he from a bad liver, became a most holy man. Cer-

<sup>1</sup> He could not endure to be left in an empty house, and whenever his friend and patron, the Earl of Devonshire, removed from Chatsworth to Hardwick, he would go with him. When he was in a very weak condition he dared not be left behind, but made his way upon a feather bed in a coach, though he survived the journey but a few days. He could not bear any discourse of death, and seemed to cast off all thoughts of it; he delighted to reckon, though then upwards of ninety years of age, upon longer life.

tainly nothing besides the belief of reward and 1706. punishment can make a man truly happy in his life, at his death, and after death. Keep innocency, and take heed to the thing that is right; for that shall bring a man peace at the last—peace in the evening of each day, peace in the day of death, and peace after death. For my own part, I apprehend, I should not much care (if free from pain) what my portion in this world was,—if a life to continue, perhaps one year, or twenty, or eighty; but then, to be dust, not to know or be known any more,—this is a thought has something of horror in it to me, and always had; and would make me careless, if it were to be long or short; but to live, to die, to live again, has a joy in it; and how inexpressible is that joy, if we secure an humble hope to live ever happily; and this we may do, if we take care to live agreeably to our rational faculties, which also best secures health, strength, and peace of mind, the greatest blessings on earth. Believe the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures, the promises and threats contained in them: and what most obstructs our doing so, I am persuaded, is fear of punishment. Look up to the firmament, and down to the deep, how can any doubt a divine power? And if there is, what can be impossible to infinite power? Then, why an infidel in the world? And if not such, who then would hazard a future state, for the pleasure of sin a few days? No wise man, and, indeed, no man that lives and would deserve to see good days; for

1706. the laws of God are grateful. In his Gospel, the terrors of majesty are laid aside, and He speaks in the still and soft voice of his Son incarnate, the fountain and spring whence flow gladness. A gloomy and dejected countenance better becomes a galley-slave than a Christian, where joy, love, and hope should dwell. The idolatrous heathen performed their worship with trouble and terror; but a Christian, and a good liver, with a merry heart and lightsome spirit: for, examine and consider well, where is the hardship of a virtuous life? (when we have moderated our irregular habits and passions, and subdued them to the obedience of reason and religion.) We are free to all the innocent gratifications and delights of life; and we may lawfully, nay, further, I say we ought to rejoice in this beautiful world, and all the conveniences and provisions, even for pleasure, we find in it; and which, in much goodness, is afforded us to sweeten and allay the labours and troubles incident to this mortal state, nay, inseparable, I believe, by disappointments, cross accidents, bad health, unkind returns for good deeds, mistakes even among friends, and what is most touching, death of friends. But in the worst of these calamities, the thought of a happy eternity does not alone support, but also revive the spirit of a man; and he goeth forth to his labour with inward comfort, till the evening of his day (that is, his life on earth), and, with the Psalmist, cries out, "I will consider the heavens

even the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained. What is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man, that thou shouldst so regard him?" Psalm viii. "Thou madest him lower than the angels, to crown him with glory." Here is matter of praise and gladness. "The fool," as the Psalmist expresses it, "hath said in his heart, there is no God." Or, let us consider the man, who is content to own an invisible power, yet tries to believe, that when man has done living on this earth he lives no more: but I would ask, if any of these unhappy creatures are fully persuaded, or that there does not remain in those men, at times (as in sickness, or sober thoughtfulness), some suspicion or doubt, that it may be other than they try to think. And although they may, to shun such a thought, or be rid of such a contemplation, run away from it to some unprofitable diversion, or, perhaps, suffer themselves to be rallied out of such a thought, so destructive to the way they walk in; yet, to be sure, that man does not feel the peace and tranquillity he does, who believes a future state, and is a good man. For, although this good man, when his mind may be clouded with some calamity, very grievous to him, or the disorder of vapours to a melancholy temper, I say, if he is tempted to some suspicion, that it is possible it may be other than he believes (pray observe), such a surmise or thought, nay, the belief, cannot drive him to any horror: he fears no evil,



1706. because he is a good man, and with his life all sorrow ends too; therefore, it is not to be denied he is the wisest man who lives by the Scripture rule, and endeavours to keep God's laws. First, his mind is in peace and tranquillity; he walks sure who keeps innocence, and takes heed to the thing that is right: 2ndly. He is secure God is his friend, that Infinite Being; and He has said, "Come unto me, ye that are heavy laden, my yoke is easy:" but guilt is, certainly, a heavy load; it sinks and damps the spirits. "A wounded spirit who can bear?" And the evil subtle spirit waits (I am persuaded) to drive the sinner to despair; but godliness makes a cheerful heart.

Now, O man! let not past errors discourage: who lives and sins not? God will judge the obstinate, profane, unrelenting sinner, but, full of compassion to the work of his own hand, if they will cease from doing evil and learn to do well, pray for grace to repent, and endeavour with that measure which will be given, if sincerely asked for; for at what time soever a sinner repents (but observe, this is no licence to sin, because at any time we may repent), for that day we may not live to see; and so, like the fool in the parable, our lamps be untrimmed when we are called upon. Remember, that to forsake vice is the beginning of virtue; and virtue certainly is most conducive to content of mind and a cheerful spirit. He (the virtuous man) rejoiceth with a friend in the good things he enjoys; fears

not the reproaches of any; no evil spirit can approach to hurt him here, or accuse him in the great day of the Lord, when every soul shall be judged according as they have done good or evil. Oh, blessed state! fit for life, fit for death! In this good state I wish and pray for all mankind; but most particularly, and with all the ardour I am capable of, to those I have brought into the world, and those dear to them. Thus are my fervent and frequent prayers directed,—that you may die the death of the righteous, and to this end, that Almighty God would endue you all with spiritual wisdom, to discern what is pleasing in his sight.<sup>1</sup>

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LADY RUSSELL TO LADY DE ROOS.

Saturday, Sept. 6, 1707.

EXPECTING the Duke and Duchess of Somerset this evening, I am writing to dispatch a letter, not being sure how I can dispose of my hours the days of their being here. Your sister says they both design to come hither from Windsor, but I guess that will be but for a little time, and would not have her fatigue herself for a few days. I suppose your Lord is with you before this, and conclude he will have heard nothing at Lord Wharton's that will settle your head about your sons. I am of

<sup>1</sup> From Miss Berry's Memoir.

1707. your Lord's mind, that a man who has lived in a country village will even at present not know enough of the world to live in a family like yours, and I think I have in some of mine mentioned to that purpose. I have been talking to Mr. Harborough if he knew anything of the usher: Lord Cartwright mentioned his name, Callot; he says no, not by sight, but he knows one Mr. Caswal, that was first usher and married, and because he married the master would not let him continue, so he set up a school in Westminster, and has about eighty scholars, and has hurt the great school. Now he remembers, he says, that Callot and he were near joining, and if they had it was thought the great school had been hurt much more, but something about pre-eminence broke them off; and Callot seeing Mr. Caswal thrive so well, set up too. Whether he did not hit so well, or why he gave it over he does not know, but it seems he is now usher to the great school, and a great burden it is, he says, to discharge well, and all the lesser boys are the care. Now he knows Mr. Caswal very well, and a most extraordinary man he is for goodness as well as learning, and would give a faithful character, but he says that Doctor Bently threatening to put him, Callot, out of the book, is a good sign that he is a man of parts, and so they want him at times of great exercises, and at their acts I suppose. But he says, though he has but 30% a year, yet he, perhaps, makes it up 100% other ways by gifts. It is

ordinary at Christmas for the children's friends to 1707. give a guinea, some two, so that it may not be so very easy to get him if he is so very deserving. When you have talked all this, young Lord, if you care for inquiring this way by Mr. Caswal, it is soon done, and no doubt you know some know Bently well enough.

Talking about the matter, Mr. Harborough was saying Saul was a very good scholar he thought, and Englishmen were inclined to approve of their way of learning, for this reason only, that if by accident or idleness they had forgot, they knew where to find it, and so recover themselves; but the other way being by example, not rule, they know not where to go for it; but this by the by, and not to the purpose, but I set down all I hear: indeed, if the usher did hit, and not being a divine, he might be a jewel, and be ever for one use or another. His age, as he, Mr. Scarborough I mean, guesses, must be twenty-six,—a good age enough, but remember figure; that he be not unsightly; for he might be as Mr. Flurno was with Lord Sunderland in all places, if he would learn French, which an ingenious man would soon do. I have put the question to Mr. Moor, so take my leave for this time, and if I want time shall scribble to Pulse.

## LORD ORFORD TO LADY RUSSELL.

**MADAM,**

1707. If I thought the account I am going to give your Ladyship of Woburn and the master of it, would be disagreeable to you, I should ease you of the trouble of this letter. I am newly come from thence, where I stayed a whole week, and upon my word, I never was better pleased to see the Duke and Duchess of Bedford both extreme easy in their house, and living with the greatest order and decorum that it is possible, so discreet, keeping a very good table, and everything in the house as regular and in good order as I have seen in any family that pretends the most to economy. Your son busies himself with improving his park and grounds, and has got the reputation of a great husbandman. I have told them the fear I am under is his growing covetous, which I think is a fault for a man of his quality and estate, next to running into a greater debt than one can pay. I endeavoured to persuade him to be some years longer in paying off his debt, and to allow himself more that he may complete his house for his dwelling to his own mind, but I find his thoughts and heart is fully set to put himself beforehand in the world, which cannot be accounted an act of indiscretion. If I may be believed, I have not for many years had a truer satisfaction

than observing, the time I was there, the Duke of 1707. Bedford's behaviour in all respects, for as much as I have a concern for the well-being of the family, and a zeal not common for the son of a man I passionately love, and a mother I have, without a compliment, the greatest honour and respect for imaginable; and I now have great pleasure in thinking I shall have good reason to value this present Duke of Bedford, not only as I have the honour to be related to him, but for his own virtue and honourable principles. He has a very good understanding, and his late proceedings show him to have a true sense of honour and parts. From all which it is very easy to believe he will see as a man of his quality ought to do, and as that family has always done since they have been termed noble. Upon my word, I write this with great pleasure, possibly with greater than I can well express. God has blessed him with fine children, I hope and depend they will have many more. He shows himself a fond husband and kind father, two very good things.

And now, Madam, I must not conclude without telling you my complaints. Picket was the evening's diversion, in which I, poor man, was a terrible sufferer. A pound a night hardly did my business, and not one pool in all that time came to my share. You may judge, Madam, what trouble and concern I lay under at my ill fortune, or rather ill play. I would fain have prevailed with him to come to Chippenham this Newmarket meeting, but

1707. he will not stir this year, but makes me hope I shall see him here if we live so long as the next summer ; and then I have a proposal to make, which I hope will not be denied me, because it will be the greatest pleasure and satisfaction I can ever propose to myself for the few years that I have in course of nature to crawl about (insignificant as I am). The business is, to have the honour of your Ladyship's company with all your sons and daughters at this poor place. I shall be very happy to see you all together under my roof. I will undertake to contrive the journey to be easy for you without the trouble of a long day's journey, nor to have the uneasiness of being at an inn by the way ; and the greatest compliment and demonstration I can show for such an honour is, instead of allowing one pound a day for cards, I will come up to one and a half. And now, Madam, I have troubled you with a very long letter : I have nothing more than to offer you ten thousand pardons for taking up so much of your time, and to conclude with what I shall for ever be, with the greatest truth and respect,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most faithful and obedient

Humble servant,

ORFORD.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> From the Devonshire Papers ; it is already printed in Mr. Wiffen's Memoir of the House of Russell ; but it appeared desirable to introduce it again here.

## LADY RUSSELL TO THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE.

Saturday, August 12, 1708.

AT present I feel so small a content in writing or 1708. reading letters, that I should not choose it to entertain myself or you; for there is but one subject to think or speak of—one that is not to be cast off, nor yet digested. For my part, I can bring no serious, thinking, considering thought; but, turn it all ways, it ever centres in the same one I love not to name: it is dismal; but I throw it away as often as I can, since no result is so taken from my opinion. But my heart must care for those I love (I hope) better than my old self, because so much younger: perhaps, if as near fourscore as I am, I might be more indifferent.<sup>1</sup> But all this is a digression from the matter I took my pen to set down. I hear you are going, or perhaps gone, to Woburn, from whence your brother seems to intend to leave in a fortnight as I hear. Now Doctor Sloane<sup>2</sup> told Spencer there had been three gone out of Streatham House of the small-pox; and more died in that parish this summer than any year since the plague, by very many. Now if to change from an infected air to a better is thought less safe than staying in it,

<sup>1</sup> To what this alludes the editor has not been able to discover.

<sup>2</sup> The celebrated Sir Hans Sloane, at that time physician to Christ's Hospital.



1708. sure to leave a healthy one for one not so must be yet more to be apprehended; but any caution from me may not take: but if you, when with them in talk, put the question, if the Doctor would think it advisable, being all well where they are, to change nearer London, it will not be misunderstood; and when they have considered they must choose for themselves: but if so near, your brother will be so oft in London that it will be very happy if he escapes.<sup>1</sup> When I left London my sister Robert<sup>2</sup> was so positive Lady Bedford had resolved to continue at Woburn, that she would not credit my saying I did not know it; and added, she was sure she had bespoke her midwife; but I thought that might be in case of need. If wavering, a word in season may settle it. My service to your Lord and self, with my poor prayers for all mercies and blessings to you both, and yours, closes this from

R. R.

All kind service to Mr. Charlton. I desire he will suppress vapours: none on earth knows what is to come.

<sup>1</sup> Within three years afterwards he fell a sacrifice to the disease his mother so much dreaded for him.

<sup>2</sup> Lady Robert Russell.

LADY RUSSELL TO SIR JONATHAN

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1711. 1711.

LADY RUSSELL TO SIR JO  
BISHOP OF EX

MY LORD,

I am much obliged to your Lordship, account you give me of your transactions with Reinolds, and the vicar of Tavistock, esteeming the pains you have taken in being so particular, both as a respect and as proceeding from the same motive that inclined me to speak with your Chancellor, which was, that this matter might be amicably composed. The late Duke of Bedford was a person of great justice, moderation, and courtesy, from which,

<sup>1</sup> "He was a younger son of Sir Jonathan Trelawney, of Pelynt, in Cornwall; but his elder brother dying in 1680, he inherited the title of Baronet. He was a man of polite manners, competent learning, and uncommon knowledge of the world. He was a true son and friend of the Church, and exerted himself with courage and alacrity, with magnanimity and address, in defence of her just rights and privileges. He was friendly and open, generous and charitable; was a good companion and a good man. He was successively bishop of Bristol, Exeter, and Winchester." —*Granger's Biographical Dictionary*, vol. iv. p. 521.

While Bishop of Exeter, he was one of the seven sent to the Tower, 1688; his imprisonment caused a great commotion among his county-men in Cornwall. "All over the county the peasants chanted a ballad, of which the burden is still remembered:—

'And shall Trelawney die, and shall Trelawney die?  
Then thirty thousand Cornish boys will know the reason why.'

"The miners from their caverns re-echoed the song with a variation:—

'Then twenty thousand under ground will know the reason why.'

MACAULAY.

1708. he ever swerved, I dare say, it was only through misinformation; but, in managing his business he was regular to his method, doing it all generally by his officers, and very reserved to his friends and relations. I never knew anything of this difference till some time after his Grace's death, that Mr. Reinolds, his chief steward, applying himself to me, among other things, acquainted me therewith, which he did upon occasion of a letter he had lately received from the vicar, wherein he gave him to understand that your Lordship had renewed your prosecution, and that he was under some apprehensions my son would not support him as his grandfather would have done; to which, out of pity to the grief and fear he expressed, I ordered the steward to reply to this effect:—That my son being at Newmarket he could give him, at present, no answer from him; but I bid him tell him from me that I did not doubt but my son would assist him in all things that were just and reasonable; and, resolving to get a relation of it as soon as I could from your Lordship's side, I found means to discourse with Doctor Edisbury, your Chancellor, of which, I suppose, he has given you a better account than I can. Had I not observed, that most of the differences that are arise from not having patience, or not using proper means to be truly informed, I should have thought you had singled out this man; but by the course I took I soon understood your orders were general. I agree, my Lord, the vicar

SIR JONATHAN TRELA

19993

1711. 1711.

ought to observe the rubric, canonical injunctions; I am effect singing psalms music parishes; and I am sorry a populous a place, should need to prayers Wednesdays and Fridays.

Lord, neither I, nor any that I can persuade assist in opposing your just authority; and, saying that we are not of their mind who would lay pains and penalties upon people for not conforming to its worship, we are, as much as any, for supporting the Church of England, and encouraging communion with it.

I am satisfied, my Lord, there are many would be very inconsiderable, were it not for being fierce of a party; and for that end they keep up a dissension, when the reason of it is ceased: but I wish those whom I am concerned for to value men according to their worth, and not for being of a party, and to be assured irreligious and immoral men, of whatever party they are, or whatever they profess, can never be true to friend or country, wanting the principles that should make them so. It highly imports my son to inquire into the things your Lordship relates of an officer of his; and if what he writ to one of the gentlemen you mention be extant, and were put into my son's hands, it would be an undeniable proof, and put the matter past all out-facing. I cannot conclude, before I give your Lordship my thanks for your obliging letters, and your favour to

1708, the vicar, upon our account. My son will order his steward to advise him to be more observant for the future, and to let him know he must expect no countenance from him, if he be irregular.

I am, your Lordship's.

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BURNET, BISHOP OF SALISBURY, TO LADY RUSSELL.

I CANNOT keep myself from writing, though I cannot tell how to express the deep sense I have of this new heavy stroke with which God is trying your faith and patience. To lose the only son of such a father,<sup>1</sup> who was become so truly his son in

<sup>1</sup> The death of her son Wriothealey, second Duke of Bedford, K.G., "a child of many tears and prayers." The following summary of his character is taken from Wiffen's *Memoirs of the House of Russell*:—"Of Wriothealey, Duke of Bedford, few particulars remain to be communicated. To floriculture, as well as landscape gardening and agriculture, he appears to have been much devoted; in one of his letters to Sir Hans Sloane, in 1709, he seeks to tempt that philosophic virtuoso and amiable man to Woburn, by stating that he was about receiving 'a great number of rarities, and particularly a large collection of ranunculi from Candia, such a one as he believes was never before seen in England.' In these pursuits, which Lord Bacon terms 'the purest of human pleasures,' and in collecting and perusing the rare and valuable books which he was constantly adding to his library, his tranquil years passed on. Yet, although passionately fond of his retirement in the country, he was not inattentive to his public duties. Whilst naturally attached to the great principles for which his father had laid down his life, he took a part of much moderation in the high disputes that agitated the reign and the parliaments of Queen Anne. He had been so far disposed to support what were considered the interests of the Church of England, as to vote in 1703 for the bill against occasional conformity, but in 1710, when he saw the

all respects, is, indeed, anew opened  
 which God had, by many spaces  
 several years, been binding  
 now you will see, whether

“Not my will, but thy will be done.”

sake, do not abandon yourself once more.

deep inconsolable melancholy: rouse up the

God has given you, and say, “The Lord has given,

the Lord has taken; blessed be the name of the

Lord.” When God took his blessed father, he

was left as a branch to spring up in his stead: now

God has taken him; but the branches are left

in whom he is to live again. Remember you are

now much older than when you suffered yourself to

sink so much under a great though a just load.

You cannot now stand under what you bore then:

and you do not know but that, as God has helped

you in so eminent a manner to do your duty to your

own children, he may yet have a great deal for you

to do to your children’s children; and, therefore,

study to compose your spirits into a resignation to

the holy will of God, and see what remains for you

passion of the time for absolute intolerance and bigotry, he was anxious to record his adherence to the great cause of civil and religious liberty, and in the memorable trial of Sacheverel gave his vote against that fiery zealot.”

“At his death-bed,” says Miss Berry, “we find only his mother receiving his last words, soothing his last moments, and pointing his last thoughts to that heaven which she was again to prove gives means of support in present, and of consolation in future, for all misfortunes, however severe or repeated, to which we have not ourselves contributed.”

1708, yet to be done, before your course is finished. I could not help giving this vent to that true and hearty concern I have in everything that touches you in so tender a part. I can do no more but follow this with my most earnest prayers to the God of all comfort for you and all yours, more particularly for the sweet remnants of him, whom God has taken to Himself.

I am, beyond all expression,

Madam,

Your most humble and most obedient servant,

GI. SARUM.

Salisbury, May 30th, 1711.

LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

ALAS! my dear Lord Galway, my thoughts are yet all disorder, confusion, and amazement; and I think I am very incapable of saying or doing what I should.<sup>1</sup>

I did not know the greatness of my love to his person, till I could see it no more. When nature, who will be mistress, has in some measure,

<sup>1</sup> The death of her only son. To this affliction succeeded, in Nov., 1711, the loss of her daughter, the Duchess of Rutland, who died in child-bed. Lady Russell, after seeing her in the coffin, went to her other daughter, married to the Duke of Devonshire, from whom it was necessary to conceal her grief, she being at that time in child-bed likewise; therefore she assumed a cheerful air, and, with astonishing resolution agreeable to truth, answered her anxious daughter's inquiries with these words—"I have seen your sister out of bed to-day."

with time, relieved herself, then, and not till then, 1711. I trust the Goodness, which hath no bounds, and whose power is irresistible, will assist me by his grace to rest contented with what his unerring providence has appointed and permitted. And I shall feel ease in this contemplation, that there was nothing uncomfortable in his death, but the losing him. His God was, I verily believe, ever in his thoughts. Towards his last hours he called upon Him, and complained he could not pray his prayers. To what I answered, he said, he wished for more time to make up his accounts with God. Then with remembrance to his sisters, and telling me how good and kind his wife had been to him, and that he should have been glad to have expressed himself to her, said something to me of my double kindness to his wife, and so died away. There seemed no reluctance to leave this world, patient and easy the whole time, and I believe knew his danger, but loath to grieve those by him, delayed what he might have said. But why all this? The decree is past. I do not ask your prayers; I know you offer them with sincerity to our Almighty God for

Your afflicted kinswoman.

June, 1711.



## LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

MY LORD,

1712. I have been for some weeks often resolved, and as soon unresolved, if I would or would not engage upon a subject I cannot speak to without some emotion, but I cannot suffer your being a stranger to any that very near concerns me. Yet before I could dispose myself to do it, concluded the article not a secret to you, such care having by one side been taken, as to let it be a visiting day affair, whether or not the Duke of Rutland had not fixed a second choice? perhaps as proper to call it the first; for when marriages are so very early, it is accepting rather than choosing, on either side. But Lord Rutland, to the end of my good child's life, has so well approved of the choice, in all and every respect, and, now that she is no more, has, with very deliberate consideration, as soon as he composed his mind to think, first taken care to inquire, and be truly informed what powers he had to do for his children; and then, by the strictest rules of justice and impartial kindness, settled every younger child's portion, by adding to what they had before. As it is to me the most solid instance of his respect and love he can now give to her memory, and being I believe it done with an honest sincerity, and true value of her, and all her

virtues, I conceive it would be wrong in me to take 1712. offence at some circumstances the censorious part of the town will be sure to do, and refine upon, for the sake of talk. I miss the hearing, by seeing few, and not answering questions.<sup>1</sup>

The first notice I had of his intention was by Mr. Charlton, and I really believe that was as soon as he had given himself his own consent. He told me he found him under great unquietness, when he acquainted him with his thoughts, who said, he was under all the anxieties a man could feel how to break it to me, though it was then but a thought of his own, yet so much he would not conceal from me. Mr. Charlton undertook to tell me, and I did as soon resolve to let it pass as easy between him and me as I could, by bidding Mr. Charlton let him know I would begin to him. I did so, which put us both in some disorder, but I believe he took, as I meant it, kindly.

A decency in time was all I expected. The person is sister to the present Lord Sherard; the other sister had been a widow to a Lord Irwine, and some years ago married a brother of the Duchess of Rutland, a Mr. Noel,<sup>2</sup> who has been

<sup>1</sup> John Lord Roos, afterwards Duke of Rutland, (whose first wife, Catherine, Lady Russell's second daughter, died Oct. 31, 1711,) on Jan. 1, 1712-13, married Lucy, sister to Bennet Sherard, first Earl of Harborough.

<sup>2</sup> John Noel, third son of Baptist, Viscount Campden, married Elizabeth, eldest sister to Bennet, Earl of Harborough, and widow of Edward Ingram, Viscount Irwine, in Scotland.

1712. a companion to his nephew ever since our sorrowful time. Here is a general opinion that the Lord St. John<sup>1</sup> is gone to Paris; some will suppose it is to try if the French King will come up to the terms the Dutch will accept.

August 5, 1712.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

THE change of your secretary is much to the advantage of the reader; it would be so to you, I conclude, if I did not choose to be my own; but when I write as I do to you, the amusement is more agreeable to myself, and I assure myself you will make it so to you, if you can find what I mean to say; for I know I am exceeding apt to miss words I meant to put down. However, unless the business be of importance, I spare my eyes examining. As to the subject of my last, I will let it rest. As to the point of education, I am sorry we are not of one mind; but there is no help where there is no remedy. There is an over-ruling Providence, and I try to hope her children shall be blessed. It was their good mother's thoughts under her hand, and though it might be thought her children would want her, yet her hope was, her prayers in their behalf had been heard. There

<sup>1</sup> Lord St. John, afterwards Viscount Bolingbroke, famous for his share in the peace of Utrecht, &c.

is nothing yet appears blamable in them. Their 1712. father's indulgence may hurt in their best part, but as to the worldly part, if he is honestly dealt with in the drawing up of writings, he puts it out of his power to prevent any attempt for it. Let that be as it will, these accidents in families have been, and will no doubt be while the world lasts. And if we are so happy as to secure our next, and lasting stake, it matters little how this passes; yet flesh and blood shrinks at pain, and want of ease in body or mind, and it is natural to do so. Who can do otherwise, but by an affected force? and in that is no virtue: but I leave this: you want no admonitions. I want the practice, though my years are many.

Now, my Lord, I come to my neighbour Withers, as you call him. I know the persons of none of that name; if it be him at Alsford, he has been a commander, and may talk of taking and defending towns more knowingly than bargaining for lands; but I fancy it is another rather further from me, and the family more known to me a hundred years ago. As to the warren, I do not value foxes as the gentleman does, but I do the beauty of our Warren; and for the value, you found he went but half way; but to cut that short, it is entailed, and I must leave it so. The warrener must be bribed, not me.

I am thankful to God I have made an end between Mr. Sp<sup>1</sup> and myself, &c. Now as I am to

<sup>1</sup> Most probably Mr. Spencer, her steward.

1712. answer for Mr. Sp , who was an accountant to me, being employed by me so; there is this article between him and me, that if at any time there is a discovery of any money, or debt due to him, I have the title to it, and not he, let it be much or little.

After many offers and endeavours by council and without, I came to this agreement:—He was to make a clear and full discovery of all he is worth, lands, leases, monies, goods, debts, &c. Then I, who was to have the whole in me, allow back to him what I think will be a subsistence to him, his wife and children. And so I have done. Swearing is what I desire to excuse; for it is possible he might be tempted to proceed in doing ill, and I not the better; and if he had sworn truth, as others professed they would not believe him, though I am less free in the professing of it, I might have doubted: then why provoke him to sin?

What has been urged to me over and over again, many times, has no force in it, which was, that they would undertake, and are sure he could conceal ten thousand pounds, which I should never discover, either in this nation or India. My answer is, if it cannot ever be found, it is to me as if it were not. And if I had any opinion of a conjurer (as we call them), I would not seek it that way. So what I approved best of, I chose.

That if a discovery be made out it is to my use. Now the farm he has from his father, which is 55*l*.

a year, I could not come at, all counsel agreeing it to 1712. be out of the way: nay I must have had application to Chancery to have proceeded: there he could have hung it up. Sir Joseph Jekyl said this, that there it might hang for a dozen of years, nay to the end of the youngest in the room, and Tom Selwood was one of the seven or eight; there were four counsel. Also, he said, he would not take five thousand pounds of me towards the charge I should be at. But all this avails not at all; nothing but prison, nay, dying on a dunghill has no ill sound. At last I gave no further trouble (after having endured so much myself), from the opinion of a great lawyer, though not now to be paid as counsel. After two hours' discourse, and laying all before him, he told me it was the most advisable thing to compound the matter: and he esteemed it a very good composition, where they pretended to seven or eight thousand pounds from me, to pay me between two or three. He was so vehement in his opinion of making an end, that as a friend he prayed and exhorted me to set to it next morning; and if it were his case he would not sleep till it was done, if that were possible; for if he should happen to die, I could not imagine how bad my circumstances might be, even to the returning two thousand pounds I had then received, and never be able to disprove his account, so be a debtor eight thousand pounds to his wife and children. This has given me many terrible waking hours from week to week, seeking to please

1712. and accommodate to my wishes; but they were not inclined to believe what they did not like; so took no impression, as I would think they did not believe it did in me: but I was no hypocrite; I felt more than I told. My mind is more at rest as to all my worldly concerns. Here I ask of Lord Galway.<sup>1</sup>

Saturday, August 16, 1712.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

I HAVE before me, my good Lord, two of your letters, both partially and tenderly kind, and coming from a sincere heart and honest mind (the last a plain word, but, if I mistake not, very significant), are very comfortable to me, who I hope have no proud thoughts of myself, as to any sort. The opinion of an esteemed friend, that one is not very wrong, assists to strengthen a weak and willing mind to do her duty towards that Almighty Being, who has from infinite bounty and goodness so chequered my days on this earth, as I can thankfully reflect I have felt many, I may say many years of pure, and, I trust, innocent, pleasant content, and happy enjoyments as this world can afford, particularly that biggest blessing of loving and being loved by those I loved and respected: on earth no enjoyment certainly to be put in balance with it. All

<sup>1</sup> Conclusion in another paper not found.

other are like wine, intoxicates for a time, but the end is bitterness, at least not profitable. Mr. Waller (whose picture you look upon) has, I long remember, these words—

All we know they do above,  
Is, that they sing, and that they love.

The best news I have heard is, you have two good companions with you, which I trust will contribute to divert you this sharp season, when after so sore a fit, as I apprehend you have felt, the air, even of your improving pleasant garden, cannot be enjoyed without hazard.

The Queen has appointed twelfth-day for a drawing-room, and several tables for play, but there was none till yesterday, and how that passed I know not.

I heard a lady say yesterday, that the Ambassador had turned away four servants for selling wine by bottles, and that she had tasted his bur-gundy, which was very good.<sup>1</sup>

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

About 1712 or 1713.

HAVING scribbled a great deal but last post, there is reason I should be quiet this; but the letter

<sup>1</sup> The conclusion and date lost.



1712. I have read, under your own hand, affects me so much, I cannot forbear to say your right hand was not more easy to be read.<sup>1</sup> However, the chief errand of this is to require of you not to make a custom of it to me; for if you will but take care, in case you are not well, that I hear, by any hand, how you are, in a line or two, I shall be best content; and when I do not hear, believe your health pretty good, at least: but your Lordship is so puffed up with the honours you receive from our sex, you must brag! The more serious of your papers I shall say no more to, than that, as it is written in a fair character, so I do, with much ease, read the words; but, as you rightly observe, the difficulty lies in practice, yet neither you nor myself have the smiles of fortune too lavishly bestowed upon us, or to abide by us as to draw our hearts or minds as to choose and be fond of what the world at present affords us: but if, with the length of our days here, we can feel our desires and wills docible, willing to submit as to improve our best thoughts and per-

<sup>1</sup> Lord Galway had lost his right arm at the unfortunate battle of Almanza, where he commanded the allied troops of England and Portugal, and was beaten by the Duke of Berwick, April 24, 1707. For this defeat, and his subsequent conduct during the Spanish campaign, he was arraigned by Lord Peterborough in the House of Lords, in February, 1710. "The services of Lord Galway, which had often been signally meritorious, ought to have protected him from the severe censures with which he was now loaded; though his errors or misconduct had been established by more impartial and satisfactory evidence than was produced upon this occasion."—*Somerville's History of Queen Anne*, p. 422.

formances, then our lives are granted as a blessing, 1712. as we may assure ourselves.

Pray, my Lord, be not in care about my writings.<sup>1</sup> Indeed, they are not worth your reading nor the postage: but I consider if anybody living will think them so it is yourself and Lady Norton;<sup>2</sup> and I often feel myself willing to relieve my thoughts so apt to reflect upon times past, when to look forward to what is to come should be my care, my comfort, or my dread. God's grace preserve me from the last, and strengthen the first to me, to the end of those few days, or years, I have to struggle through. I cannot end with better words, for my own behalf, or that of the few friends left now in the world, to the satisfaction of Lord Galway's truly affectionate cousin, and humble servant.

I am going to make a visit out of town to sister Vaughan.<sup>3</sup> I cannot look over what I have set down, and care not for the task, for I ever find mistakes, wrong words, or missing right ones, takes as much time as writing does, and more trouble to my eyes.

<sup>1</sup> If this alludes to original compositions, none remain but a few scattered thoughts on religious subjects, all repeated in her letters; some self-examinations on the Ten Commandments before she received the sacrament; instructions to others on the same subject; and some notes of sermons.

<sup>2</sup> Lady Betty Norton, her niece.

<sup>3</sup> Lady Vaughan, the wife of John, Lord Vaughan, who succeeded Francis, Lord Vaughan, Lady Russell's first husband, was Anne, daughter of the Marquis of Halifax, by Dorothy, the daughter of the first Lord Sunderland and Saccarissa.

Endorsed by Lady Russell—"To Mr. Norton, September, 1713, but what sent altered in many places when written fair."

SIR,

1713. The words I have read in your letter to my dear niece, dated September 8th, leave no room for me to hesitate what I ought to do; that is, first to acknowledge the justice of your thoughts, in believing I would be what I ought to be; and I were very unworthy of it, if I declined, to the uttermost of my abilities, to be of use, in the least or biggest occasion for it. The present is one of those the most to be lamented; but, sir, my business is not to speak much on the uncomfortable part; the separation is agreed on by you both. My earnest prayer is, and will be, that it be not unhappy to either; and what is conceived to be of use to the more easy passing of our time on the earth, ought to be chosen and submitted to; and next to consider well, and then determine to agree to what is hoped will be to the future satisfaction of both, as I sincerely desire it may. And now, sir, I entreat you will accept of my plain way of expressing my meaning.

[Here she goes into the details of her niece's fortune and settlements, and what Mr. Norton is to allow her.]

To make a show she never affected at any time of

her life, and much less now in her later and unfor- 1713.  
 tunate circumstances, ever to be lamented on her  
 side. Pomp was never valued by her; but to want  
 necessaries she never yet knew, nor does it enter  
 into her mind that you would have her. You, sir,  
 know the world too well to doubt but that every  
 tongue will be at liberty. I am sure, to such as  
 will expostulate the matter with her, her answer  
 will be ready, that none should complain that have  
 what they asked and all they desired. If this pleases  
 you, all may be calmly and quietly settled, and all  
 pass in silence: no contributions to the town tattles;  
 and, although in most things it is to be despised, yet  
 I exempt those of this nature. My zeal carries me  
 too far; I will have done when I have added this,  
 that you will still continue your partiality to,

Sir,

Yours, &c.

What I have wrote, there is none upon earth  
 knows any one word of.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

THERE is no post-day I do not find myself readily  
 disposed to take my pen, and dispose of it as I  
 now do; but there is not one of those days I do not

1715. also approve to myself, how mean my ability is to entertain, as I desire, such a relation and friend as Lord Galway: yet I put my mind at ease soon enough as to that trouble, being so certain and sure as I am how you receive it.

I should do better than I can yet attain to do, if I could with a more composed mind reflect on the good and bad days of a long life, and be thankful for so kind a providence as the freedom I have had from bodily pains, which so many better than I suffer; at this age I have attained there are few more exempt.

Selwood<sup>1</sup> tells me your appearance is very comfortable, and if I get to Hampshire I trust I shall see it so. Sure this season is a trial; for although it is a customary thing to complain of seasons, yet in my opinion this is an extraordinary one: I have

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Selwood, who edited the first edition of Lady Russell's Letters, 4to., 1773, who says in the dedication to John, fourth Duke of Bedford, "These are copies of my Lady Russell's Letters from the originals; all those to Dr. Fitzwilliam were by him returned in one packet to her Ladyship, with his desire they might be printed for the benefit of the public; those to the Earl of Galway were preserved by his Lordship. One to King William was found in his pocket, and those to others are minutes or copies, all of her Ladyship's handwriting. Thousands that deserved a much better fate are not to be recovered."

The original letters have never been found, nor the "copies" mentioned by Selwood. It will be seen that, though his dedication is dated 1748, the work was not published until 1773. There is a tradition that the copies were lent from the library, and printed without the permission of the family. This volume was published by Dilly of the Poultry, who held some land in Southill, and was buried in the parish church, where there is a mural tablet.

not wanted to observe (except while I enjoyed Lady 1715. Betty Norton's<sup>1</sup> company, who gave me much of her time) that from the first day of March to this there hath not been twenty-four hours without much rain, snow, or hail. It keeps Lord Devon from Newmarket, which he expects would be of use if he could get thither. He is put into a coach, and is carried on the stones, but cannot use his feet to go; it is a melancholy sight to see a young man so seized, but his patience keeps an equality with his trials. A just measure of patience in all one suffers (I conclude yourself proves it very notoriously from a variety of instances); may it ever be a comfort in our best hours! and then how ravishing the great day of the Lord! the day of recompense! for such we are allowed to call it! Madame Gouverne's brother being dead, Madame may dispose of his wealth as she thinks good in France, &c.

April 14, 1715.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

<sup>2</sup> but the merciful providence of God it is our duty to pray for and trust in; then it shall be well in the end, in this world, or a better. I beseech

<sup>1</sup> Daughter of Lord Gainsborough (by Elizabeth, sister to Lady Russell), married to Richard Norton, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> Beginning lost.

1716. God to give the consolation of his Holy Spirit to enable you to struggle with bodily pains: your resignation I have no doubt of; yet nature will shrink, when the weight is heavy, and presses hard, which will not be imputed, because it is natural.

I also pray to God to fortify your spirit under every trial; till eternity swallows all our troubles, all our sorrows, all our disappointments, and all our pains in this life. The longest, how short to eternity! All these ought to be my own care to improve my weak self, as the fortitude of your mind, experience, and knowledge, does to you. And I pray for such a portion of them in mercy to me as may secure an endless glorifying, to so feeble, so ignorant, so mean a creature as myself, that I cannot be too little in my own sight.

If there be a regency the intended journey to Chatsworth must be laid aside, as I must my pen for want of day.

I am certain of this being a truth, that I am faithfully and affectionately yours.

May 28, 1716.

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LADY RUSSELL TO THE DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE.

Tuesday, September 4, 1716.

I READ yours, 1st September, with great content, the young gentleman is so well. It is to no use to murmur that you could not be satisfied with taking

the journey; the rather also because I believe I 1716. should have done the same. It is so fine a season I trust your return to Derbyshire will be easy; your mind would not have been such if you had not done as you did. I hope the young gentleman will have a grateful, as well as pleasing memory of your tenderness. I shall be easy with a line or two from Lady Mary,<sup>1</sup> how you got to Chatsworth: at your first coming you will have a great deal to do, and so for the short time you can stay. I see no cause to fear but that all will be as we are, quiet;<sup>2</sup> but it is the temper of most to fear, or seem to do so. The season is exceedingly fine, not much burnt up: but the farmers, for talk sake, ever wishing for what they have not; but it is good walking, and that is my best diversion. I cannot easily add any words to make this more a diversion to you than that I thank God I have as much easy health as my years can have; and memory as yet enough to take a pleasure when I hear of what I love most, and desire all good may be their portion, which will afford content, while any thought whatever of good or ill remains in the head or heart of your ever affectionate mother.

My kind service to your Lord and children:

<sup>1</sup> Lady Mary Cavendish, her eldest daughter, who died unmarried in 1719.

<sup>2</sup> Meaning politically quiet, of which the rebellion of the year before had left doubts.



1716. blessings to all. I would Lord Hartington were with you. .

To her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire.

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LORD GRANBY TO LADY RUSSELL.

Aston, December, 1717.

MADAM,

Though I believe Lord Duke will acquaint your Ladyship with the condition my wife is now in with her present disorders, which proceed from a common cause that generally attends married women, and will, I hope, in due time produce a most dutiful great-grandson to your Ladyship, yet I thought I ought myself in particular to inform you of it; and should not have neglected doing it till now, but that her indispositions have so strictly required my attendance that I have hardly had leisure to do anything else, and my fears for her, lest she should do any otherwise than well, so trouble me, that it has made me forget to do several things I ought to have done, for should any unforeseen accident happen to rob me of her (which Heaven forbid!) I could not survive such a misfortune, for so many virtues and good qualities as I assure your Ladyship I find in her, seldom meet in one woman; and if anything could be a recompense for the loss of so good and dear a mother (whom she resembles in all her act-

ing), it must have been this of finding such a wife ;<sup>1717.</sup> and I cannot help believing that God, who is all mercy and full of compassion for those who are afflicted, and have suffered so much as I have done by the loss of her I so much loved, has, out of his infinite goodness, blessed me with this wife to make me in some measure amends for the loss I sustained when it was his pleasure, to which we must all submit, to deprive me, when so young, of my chief support, my greatest happiness, and the tenderest and best of mothers.

Your Ladyship will pardon my having made so much mention of her, which undoubtedly will be a fresh occasion of grief to you by reminding you of one we must never see whilst we remain here, though I hope we shall all meet hereafter in that place which is promised to all those that live in the fear of God, and walk in his ways ; but since I shall not have the happiness of seeing your Ladyship this year in London, my wife not caring to leave Lord Lexington<sup>1</sup> (who is as good a man as lives, and is extremely kind to me, and with whom I live as easily and as happily as is possible), it was my opinion that I ought to inform your Ladyship how happy I have been in my choice of a wife, and believing your Ladyship, whom I have ever found so good and kind to me upon all occasions, would not be displeased to hear of your grandson's happiness,

<sup>1</sup> Robert Sutton, second Baron Lexington of Aram, ob. 1723, when the title became extinct.

212 BISHOP OF LITCHFIELD AND COVENTRY TO

1717. and that I no way could give your Ladyship so just an idea of her, as by comparing her to one whose qualifications you were so well acquainted with. My wife begs her most humble duty to your Ladyship, and joins with me in wishing your Ladyship will believe me with the utmost truth,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most dutiful grandson,  
and obedient humble servant,

GRANBY.

I beg my most humble respects to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, and services to Mr. Charlton, when your Ladyship next sees him.

---

BISHOP OF LITCHFIELD AND COVENTRY<sup>1</sup> TO  
LADY RUSSELL.

MADAM,

I should have done myself this honour long since, could I have had the vanity to think I knew anything which would not come to your Ladyship by better hands; but you, Madam, have account of the most important matters from persons who cannot be deceived; and, I am sure, you are above the relish

<sup>1</sup> John Hough, the good Bishop of Worcester, died March 8, 1743, aged above ninety-two.

“ See Hough, superior to a tyrant's doom,  
Smile at the menace of the slave of Rome.”

of those common things which supply the news and 1717. conversation of the town.

I cannot, however, leave this place (which I purpose to do on Monday next) without presenting my most humble respects to your Ladyship, and my sincere prayers to Almighty God, for health and happiness to yourself and all yours.

I leave a place which is now pretty empty since the royal family went to Hampton Court, where the public manner in which the King lives, makes it the rendezvous, not only of the ministers and great men, but of the people of all ranks and conditions. He dines openly and with company every day, and the novelty of the sight draws a mighty concourse. After so long a reserve we may easily imagine how great a constraint he puts upon himself; but he certainly does a right thing, for by this means his face (which speaks nothing but what is great and good) will not only be familiar to his people, but he will enter into a degree of intimacy with the nobility above what could be arrived at in the cabinet or drawing-room. Would to God it might prove the happy occasion of bringing him and the Prince to a better understanding; for upon that depends the establishment of our peace, and we have already felt how much the want of it has shaken us, but there does not seem to be any appearance that way; this still continues to be the dark side of our prospect, and were it not that God has already carried so many threatening clouds over

1717. our own heads, one would dread to think how heavy this may fall. I am now going to a place where I resolve to make as few of these reflections as possible, for they are attended with anxiety of thought, and raise apprehensions of danger, which, by a hundred ways unforeseen by us, Providence may please to disappoint; but I mention them to your Ladyship because I know you to be one of those very few who can make a right use of them by using them as occasion of fervent prayer for the public welfare, without suffering them to raise a passion or disturb your mind.

Give me leave, Madam, to wish you all the happiness your own soul can desire, and to profess myself, as I do with great humility and truth,

Madam,

Your Ladyship's most obedient,

And most faithful servant,

JO. LITCHFIELD AND COV.

July 27, 1717.

I beg leave to present my most humble service to good Lord Galway. My wife's humble duty attends your Ladyship; and we are both full of acknowledgment for the fine piece of venison you were pleased to send us.

## LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

As the fine season continues (for such I esteem a 1718. hot one), I slacken in my scribbling: the pure air alone abundantly exceeds my tattle under the roof, though very well meant to you, whether sent in the French or English tongue. But although your Lordship spoke as well as you possibly could do of my French, if you did it to encourage my use of it you will be under a small disappointment, for I intend to keep my credit, and meddle no more, unless unthinking, as I really did then, and occasion no discord between us. Any partiality for that country you have discharged sufficiently long since, and the time is come to do the like to this we at present live in. That there is a more sure abiding one, is the believing Christian's comfort, and to attain that grace our daily endeavour, and those that seek shall find in due time; it is a blessing worthy of the waiting for (&c.).

Lady Anne Harvey<sup>1</sup> writes to me from Bath that there was, at one o'clock at night, an earthquake which lasted a minute, but thankful she is she was asleep; it was about ten days past.

I am, my Lord, ever the same.

June 19.

<sup>1</sup> Daughter of Lady Russell's sister Montague. She was married first to Alexander Popham, Esq., and afterwards to Lieut.-Gen. Harvey.

## LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

1718. When I scribble to Lord Galway, I consider very little what I put down, as I am secure, by God's grace, never to forfeit your love and esteem; and, till I do that, have no fear I shall lose them; in that point my mind is at ease. I exceedingly desire your body were so; but the providences permitted by Almighty God can never be hurtful to his faithful servants, although painful. Alas! what are days, months, or years (to his elected), to a happy eternity! In such a thought your soul and heart may rejoice. I verily believe; and so believe, as to desire I may find grace, as I believe you will do, in the great day when the sentence shall be pronounced.

I can truly grieve at the uneasiness in our Court, which is all I will say, or can indeed, for them. I have inquired from Dr. Sloane how the Prince is this day? He says in a way to do well. I trust, in the mercy of our God, all our divisions shall be so with time. As I conclude you do not want my reports, so I enlarge not upon them; but take my way to Lady Essex,<sup>1</sup> where all must be hushed. She is a good woman, yet not without a but; and where is her that is not? Let every one look into

<sup>1</sup> Widow of Arthur, Earl of Essex: her daughter married the Earl of Carlisle.

his own heart. I like to scribble longer, but want 1718.  
of daylight at home, and disappointment abroad,  
make it convenient to sign, as I most sincerely do,  
affectionate to your service in every respect.

December 12.

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## LADY RUSSELL TO THE EARL OF GALWAY.

It is to divert my own thoughts rather than yours I take a pen, for, as to reports, or rather unpleasing truths, I let them pass. The King and the good Princess met as she was going, or coming back, from her dying child. Her conduct I hear none condemn; but who is there that never was faulty? or takes not a wrong step? My very long acquaintance, Lady Essex, is no longer in this world, but not to be lamented in relation to herself, being certainly sincerely devout, in those points we ought to make our biggest care. She has done, I believe, prudently for her daughter, as circumstances stand. There is nothing delays Miss Hoskins changing her name, but the Act of Parliament, which now is thought necessary in all cases almost.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The fourth year of Geo. I. an Act for settling the estates of the Most Noble William, Duke of Devonshire, and William Cavendish, commonly called Marquis of Hartington, son and heir apparent of the said Duke, on the marriage of the said Marquis of Hartington, with Catherine Hoskins, spinster, only child of John Hoskins, Esq., deceased.



1718. Evening is creeping upon me, by a grandchild, who was willing to take her dinner with me, her sister having taken physic, and she not loving a boiled chicken. To-morrow your health will not be omitted, daughter Devon and Mr. Charlton being to dine here; as I hope to do with yourself at Rookley, and also at Old Straton, where you will be kindly welcome, as I am entirely assured I shall be at your Rookley. God, for the good you do to mankind, grant you some easy years, to do good upon earth, before you change for a happy eternity. So does desire and pray, Lord Galway's truly affectionate cousin, and faithfully such, to gratify to the utmost of her ability.

February 13.

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Thus deservedly enjoying the respect and honour due to the experience and the wisdom of length of days, she kept her mind free from its prejudices, peculiarities, and selfishness, by still maintaining over her feelings the same rigorous self-examination to which she had ever accustomed herself.

In an unfinished paper, the writing of which denotes the trembling hand of extreme old age, and the contents of which seem notes intended to have been thrown more directly into the form of prayer; she takes a sort of review of her life in a supplication to Heaven, for pardon on the transgressions

she recapitulates.<sup>1</sup> They are such, as prove her<sup>1723.</sup> inquisition to have been ever directed, not to the forms, but to the feelings of Christian piety; not to outward appearances, but to the inward heart and disposition. Christianity she thought “not distinguished by outward fashions, or by the professing a body of notions differing from others in the world, but by the renewing of our minds by peaceableness, charity, and heavenly love.”

The balance between the world's opinion and her character, she knew had been long struck, and was greatly in her favour; but that between her own conscience and Heaven, she here enters into with a scrupulous exactness which may assure us, she had not weightier matters to bring forward in the account.

“Vanity cleaves to me, I fear, O Lord! in all I say, in all I do. In all I suffer, proud, not enduring to slights or neglects, subject to envy the good parts of others, even as to worldly gifts. Failing in my duty to my superiors; apt to be soon angry with, and without cause too often; and by it may have grieved those that desired to please me, or provoked others to sin by my rash anger. Not ready to own any advantage I may have received by good advice or example. Not well satisfied if I have not all the respect I expected, even from my

<sup>1</sup> Devonshire MSS. The manuscript is a fragment,—a mere rough draft, with so many erasures, and so many words repeated and omitted, as to have made the transcription difficult, and the meaning sometimes obscure.

1723. superiors. Such has been the pride of my naughty heart, I fear, and also neglect in my performances due to my superiors, children, friends, or servants—I heartily lament my sin. But, alas! in my most dear husband's troubles, seeking help from man, but finding none. His life was taken away, and so sorely was my spirit wounded, even without prospect of future comfort or consolation—the more faulty in me, having three dear children to perform my duty to, with thankfulness for such a blessing left me, under so heavy a dispensation as I felt the loss of him to be. But, alas! how feeble did I find myself both then, and also poorly prepared to bear the loss of my dear child and only son, in 1711.

“ If I carry my sorrow to the grave, O Lord, in much mercy let it not be imputed as sin in me! His death was a piercing sorrow to me, yet Thou hast supported me, Lord! even in a very old age, and freer from bodily pains and sickness than most feel—I desire thankfully to recollect.

“ Alas! from my childhood I can recollect a backwardness to pray, and coldness when I did, and ready to take or seek cause to be absent at the public ones. Even after a sharp sickness and danger at Chelsea, spending my time childishly, if not idly; and if I had read a few lines in a pious book, contented I had done well. Yet, at the same time, ready to give ear to reports, and possibly malicious ones, and telling my mother-in-law, to please her. At seventeen years of age was married; continued

too often being absent at the public prayers, taking 1723. very slight causes to be so, liking too well the esteemed diversions of the town, as the Park, visiting plays, &c., trifling away my precious time. At our return to London, I can recollect that I would choose upon a Sunday to go to church at Lord B.'s where the sermon would be short, a great dinner, and after, worldly talk; when at my father's, the sermon longer, and discourse more edifying. And too much after the same way, I much fear, at my several returns to Wales and England. In the year 1665, was brought to bed of my first child; with him too indulging, I fear, to get strength soon, and spend my time as before, much with my loved sisters; I doubt not heedful, or not enough so, my servants went to church, if I did, or did not go myself.

“Some time after in London, and then with my father's wife at Tunbridge, and after with her at Bath, gave too much of my time to carelessly indulging in idleness. At Bath too well contented to follow the common way of passing the time in diversion, and thinking but little what was serious: considering more health of body than that of my soul. Forgive my heaviness and sloth in spirituals, for Christ Jesus' sake.

“After this, I must still accuse myself that sometimes in Wales, and other times in England, my care in good has not suited to my duty, not with the active and devout heart and mind I should in

1723. the evening have praised Thee, my God, for the mercies of the past day, and recollected my evil doings, or omissions of doing good in my power. Not in the morning carefully fixing my will and purpose to pass the day pleasing in thy sight, and giving good example to man, particularly such as under my care; more especially after my second marriage, forgetting by whose blessing I was so happy, consuming too much time with him.”<sup>1</sup>

Lady Russell had attained the age of eighty-six before she was summoned to pay the debt of nature. Of her last illness we know little. Her only remaining child, the Duchess of Devonshire, received at Chatsworth an account of her mother's seizure, and immediately returned to her in London. A letter from the Duchess of Devonshire's daughter, Lady Rachael Morgan,<sup>2</sup> to her brother, Lord James Cavendish, from Chatsworth, tells us—“The bad account we have received of grandmamma Russell, has put us into great disorder and hurry. Mamma has left us, and gone to London.” \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* “I believe she has stopped the letters on the road, for none have come here to-day, so that we are still in suspense. The last post brought us so bad an account, that we have reason to fear the worst. I should be very

<sup>1</sup> The end wanting.

<sup>2</sup> Lady Rachel Cavendish, married to Sir William Morgan, of Tredegar, in Monmouthshire, K. B.

glad that mamma should get to town time enough 1723. to see her, because it might be some satisfaction to both, and I hear grandmamma asked for her."<sup>1</sup>

This letter is dated the 26th September, and Lady Russell expired on Sunday the 29th.<sup>2</sup> Her

<sup>1</sup> Devonshire MSS.

<sup>2</sup> In the *Weekly Journal*, or *British Gazetteer*, October 5th, 1723, her death is thus recorded:—"The Right Honourable the Lady Russell, relict of Lord Russell, died on Sunday morning last, at five o'clock, at Southampton House, aged eighty-six, and her corpse is to be carried to Chenies, in Buckinghamshire, to be interred with that of her lord." The *London Journal* of the following week, Saturday, October 12, 1723, mentions that "On Tuesday morning last the corpse of the Lady Russell was carried from her house in Bloomsbury Square to its interment at Chenies, in Buckinghamshire." This is all the notice of Lady Russell's death by the newspapers of the day. In these more inquisitive times, every particular of the illness, death, interment, and testamentary dispositions of so distinguished a person, would have been detailed in a dozen daily papers, and repeated and amplified in as many magazines and monthly publications. In the present instance it is to be regretted that their scanty information is not supplied by any letters or family remembrances.

The following lines on the death of Lady Russell, were printed in one of the journals of the day:—

"Russell, the chaste, has left this earthly stage,  
A bright example to a brittle age.  
She prov'd a relict worthy of her Lord—  
He fell a martyr to his holy faith,  
And she preserv'd her maiden love till death;  
No arts her soul to second vows inclined,  
No storm could frighten his unshaken mind;  
Unmov'd, they both to their engagements stood,  
Though dangers threatened, and the pleasures woo'd;  
Proof against all, inseparably good."

*Weekly Journal*, Oct. 5, 1723.

death, therefore, was not according to the euthanasia of the poet—

“ Instant, and without a groan; ”

but it was certainly not preceded by long sufferings; and if ever any mortal, in dying, might hope to

“ Wake to rapture in a life to come, ”

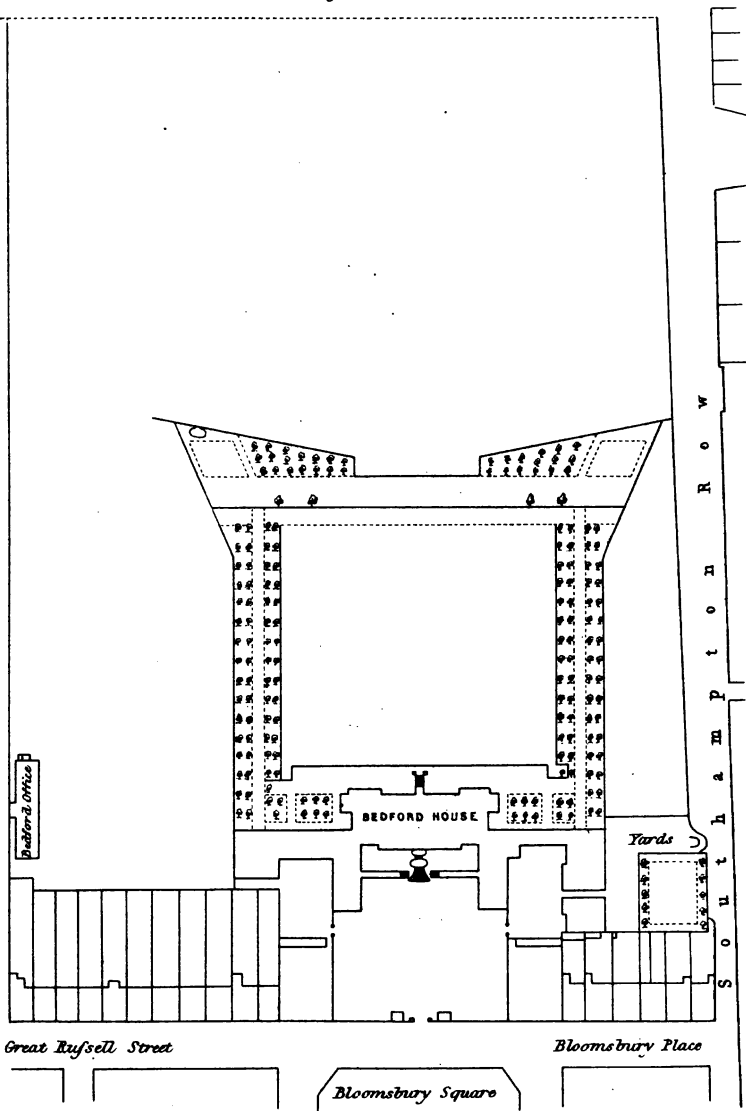
it was the pure spirit, warm heart, and tried virtues of Lady Russell.

Lady Rachel Russell's will, with two codicils, was proved on the 1st of November, 1721, by her executors, William, Duke of Devonshire, and Richard Vaughan, Esq. It contains liberal provisions for her domestics; a donation to the Charity School for “ teaching poor children to read, &c., in the Parish of St. Giles-in-the-Fields; ” and One Hundred Pounds “ to the poor French Protestant Refugees in this kingdom; and, lastly, “ I desire to be interred at Chines, in the county of Buckingham, without escutcheons or funeral pomp, further than decency may require. ” In compliance with this wish, her Ladyship's remains were deposited in the Russell Chapel, at Chenies, in Buckinghamshire.





*The Long Fields*



GROUND PLAN OF BEDFORD HOUSE.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE ENGRAVINGS.

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### PORTRAIT OF LADY RACHEL RUSSELL,

From a miniature by Boit, in the possession of Earl Spencer, K.G.

Boit "was well known for his portraits, in enamel, in which manner he has never been surpassed but by his predecessor, Petitot, and his successor, Zincke . . . . ."

"Boit died suddenly, at Paris, about Christmas 1726.

"At Bedford House is a very large print of the Duke's father and mother."<sup>1</sup>—H. WALPOLE.

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### BEDFORD HOUSE,

From the original picture in possession of the Duke of Bedford, painted by A. P. Rysbraeck; an artist of Dutch extraction, born in Paris, 1690; died in London, 1748.

Bedford House was pulled down in the year 1800; it was originally called Southampton House, built, it is said, from the designs of Inigo Jones. It had formerly been the residence of Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton, whose daughter and heiress, Lady Rachel, inherited this with other property.

The name was changed to Bedford House about the year 1732.

<sup>1</sup> Wriothesley, second Duke of Bedford, K.G., and Elizabeth his wife, daughter and sole heiress to John Howland, of Streatham, Esq. The miniature is in the possession of the present Duke of Bedford.

The annexed ground-plan shows the site of the house and its gardens. Beyond them, and between them, and a field on which the south division of Euston Square is now formed, called, it is believed, South Murrells, belonging to Lord Southampton, lay the open ground the Long Fields, which belonged to the Dukes of Bedford. The Fields, as well as the site of Bedford House and its gardens, are now occupied by the following streets and squares, namely :—

Bloomsbury Square, North side,	Torrington Street,
Bedford Place,	Torrington Place,
Montague Street,	Woburn Square,
Montague Place,	Gordon Square,
Keppell Street,	Tavistock Square,
Southampton Row, West side,	Upper Woburn Place,
Russell Square,	Endsleigh Street,
Upper Montagu Street,	Taviton Street,
Upper Bedford Place,	Gordon Street, and parts of
Woburn Place,	Great and Little Coram
Torrington Square,	Streets, and
Byng Place,	Tavistock Place, North and
	South.

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#### LORD WILLIAM RUSSELL,

From an ancient miniature in the possession of the Duke of Bedford, lately discovered, and is believed not only to be an original and contemporary portrait, but the best likeness hitherto known.

## WOBURN ABBEY.

The vignette is engraved from the back ground of a large portrait of an ancestor of a gentleman who resided near the Abbey, and is now in the possession of his descendant. About what period it was painted, the possessor is unable to say, but it bears evidence of being some time in the middle of last century. It is believed to be a pretty accurate representation of the Abbey at the period when Lady Rachel resided there, and from whence so many of her letters are dated.

Great alterations were made by the fourth Duke of Bedford, under the superintendence of Henry Flitcroft, architect, who held several offices under the Crown. He built St. Giles's Church in 1730, Wimpole Church in 1749, and made several alterations to Carleton House in 1732. He died in 1774; Walpole gives the following account of him:—

“Henry Flitcroft was an artist much employed about this period (George III.). He built the church of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, the steeple of which too much resembled that of St. Martin. His, too, was the church of St. Olave, Southwark, reckoned the best of the new erections; but the tower was not finished, from the deficiency of the allotted fund. Flitcroft is buried in the churchyard at Teddington; and against the church is a small tablet, with a Latin inscription, which may be read from the road.”

## INDEX.

- Allington, Lady, i. 7.  
Arlington, Lady, i. 36.  
Arran, Lord, death, i. 182.  
Arundel, John, Lord i. 10.
- Barcelona, loss of, ii. 146.  
Barkley House, *note*, ii. 138.  
Barrington, Lady Ann, i. 59.  
Basset, Game of, i. 48.  
Bath, Granville, Earl of, i. 43.  
Bedford, William, first Duke of, i. 7;  
letter relative to the living of Co-  
vent Garden, ii. 18.  
——, death, ii. 167.  
——, Wriothesley, second Duke of,  
death, ii. 190.  
——, Anne Carr, Countess of,  
death, i. 129.  
—— House, ground-plan, ii. 225.  
Bedloe, i. 63.  
Bellasys, Lady, i. 15.  
Berry, Henry, turned Protestant, i. 50.  
Berry, Miss, advt. to her life of Lady  
Russell, i. 4.  
Bethell, Slingsby, i. 64.  
Bolingbroke, Earl of, death, i. 186.  
Bolton, Charles Paulet, Duke of,  
Reresby's note upon, i. 44.  
Buckingham, Sheffield, Duke of, *note*,  
i. 184.
- Burnet, Bishop, outlawed, i. 229.  
Burnet, Mrs., wife of the Bishop, ii. 2.
- CailleMOTE, M. La, ii. 34.  
Campden, Lord, his marriage, i. 202.  
Canaples, M. de, i. 12.  
Carlisle, Charles, third Earl of, i. 236.  
Catherine, Queen of Charles II., i. 236.  
Charlton, Mr., i. 33.  
——, Francis, *note*, i. 140.  
Cholmeley, Sir Hugh, i. 35.  
Churchill, Sir John, *note*, i. 106.  
Cleveland, Duchess of, i. 24.  
Colchester, Thomas, Lord, i. 63.  
Compton, Bishop of London, petition  
in behalf of, character of, i. 217.  
Corker, James, i. 237.  
Covent Garden, disposal of the living  
of, ii. 13, 18, 20.  
Coventry, Sir William, account of his  
charities, i. 193.  
Cowper, Earl, Lord Chancellor, *note*,  
i. 272.  
Crequi, Marshal, i. 33.  
Croissy, M. de, i. 12.  
Czar of Muscovy, ii. 147, 148.
- Darcy, Hon. Conyers, afterwards Earl  
of Holderness, i. 16, 53.  
D'Avaux, Count, *note*, i. 281.

- Declaration of Indulgence, *note*, i. 218;  
pamphlets upon, *note*, i. 232.
- Delamere, Lord, *note*, i. 175; ac-  
quittal, 176.
- Denham, Lady, i. 55.
- Devonshire, William, first Duke of, i. 58.  
———, Lady, carried in state, i. 22.
- Drayton, Manor House, ii. 123.
- Duras, Lord, i. 20.
- Dyckvelt, M., Dutch ambassador, dis-  
course with Lady Russell, i. 204;  
character of, i. 212; audience of the  
King, i. 216.
- Elbœuf, Charles, Duc de, i. 9.
- Ellis, Sir William, i. 49.
- Esex, Earl of, i. 51, 56.  
——, Countess of, i. 276; ii. 216.
- Exclusion Bill, i. 49.
- Felton, Lady Betty, i. 40.
- Flitcroft, Henry, architect, ii. 227.
- Forbes, Sir James, ii. 130.
- Freeman, Dr., ii. 27.
- Frost, severe in England, *note*, i. 114.
- Galway, Earl of, *note*, ii. 202.
- Graham, Col. James, i. 16.
- Grey, Ford, Lord, i. 48.
- Gwynne, Nell, i. 53.
- Hales, Sir Edward, *note*, i. 222.
- Halifax, George, Marquis of, i. 20.  
———, Charles Montague, Earl of,  
*note*, i. 240.
- Hamilton, Count George, ii. 32, 34, 35-  
———, Anne, Duchess of, i. 30.
- Hancock, Dr., ii. 153.
- Harvey, Lady, i. 19.
- Hobbes, Thomas, *note*, ii. 174.
- Hogue, La, Battle of, ii. 97.
- Honsberdick, seat of King William,  
ii. 146.
- Horneck, Dr., ii. 19, 21, 25.
- Hoskins, John, Lady Russell's agent,  
i. 136.
- Hoskins, Miss, afterwards Duchess of  
Devonshire, ii. 217.
- Howard, Hon. Craven, i. 9.  
———, Lord of Escrick, i. 9.
- Huntingtower, Lord, i. 16.
- James, King, recalls the troops from  
Holland, i. 234; invasion of Ire-  
land, 281.
- Jeffreys, Lord, refusal to seal the brief  
for the relief of the French Protest-  
ants, i. 181; conduct relating to,  
187.
- Jekyl, Thomas, D.D., i. 283.
- Jenkins, Sir Leoline, i. 63.
- Inchiquin, Lady, i. 54.
- India House, where ladies went shop-  
ping, i. 32.
- Johnson, Julian, ii. 14, *note*; 25, 28,  
29, *note*.
- Jones, Lady, i. 16.
- Kenn, Bishop of Bath and Wells, i.  
166, 284.
- Kidder, Bishop, *note*, ii. 20, 25.
- Kirk, Colonel, ii. 34.
- Knight, Sir John, i. 63, 64.
- Koningsmarck, Count, i. 51.
- Lauderdale, Duke of, i. 57.
- Leicester, Philip, Earl of, i. 60.
- Lexington, Lord, ii. 211.
- Londonderry, siege of, ii. 4.
- Lower, Dr., i. 18; *note*, i. 153.
- Macarty, General, ii. 4.
- Marlborough, Sarah, Duchess of, on  
Vandyk's picture of the Countess of  
Bedford, *note*, i. 129.
- Mazarin, Duchesse de, i. 17.

- Monmouth, Duke of, i. 13, 58; rebellion, *note*, 156; letter to Duke of Albemarle, *note*, 156.  
 Montagu, Ralph, afterwards Duke of Montagu, i. 42.  
 Montague, William, i. 20.  
 Montague House, destroyed by fire, i. 180.  
 Mulgrave, John Sheffield, Earl of, i. 13.  
  
 Nantes, revocation of the edict of, sufferers by, i. 169, 171.  
 Noel, Lady Elizabeth, i. 31, 122.  
 North, Sir Francis, i. 64.  
 Northumberland, Elizabeth, Lady, i. 10.  
 ———, Dowager, Countess of, i. 13.  
 Nottingham, Earl of, his scruples on the oath of allegiance, ii. 11.  
  
 Oath of Allegiance, remarks on, i. 286; ii. 10.  
 Ogle, Mrs., i. 9.  
 Orange, Mary, Princess of, i. 13, 53.  
 Ormond, Earl of, letter to the Earl of Bedford, *note*, i. 157.  
 Ossory, Thomas, Earl of, i. 40.  
 Oxford, Aubrey de Vere, Earl of, i. 236.  
  
 Passive obedience, *note*, ii. 24; Lord Russell's opinion on, 49.  
 Patrick, Dr., sermon, *note*, i. 125.  
 Peerages, new creations, i. 280.  
 Pembroke, Philip, seventh Earl of, i. 63.  
 Peterborough, Earl of, *note*, i. 220.  
 Plot, new, great talk of, i. 60.  
 Pollexfen, Sir H., i. 274.  
 Popish plot, i. 39.  
 Portraits and vignettes, description of, ii. 225.  
  
 Portsmouth, Duchess of, i. 24.  
 Prentices' plot, i. 56.  
 Pulteney, Lady, i. 25.  
  
 Queen, the; her sorrow at the accusation of Oates, i. 39.  
  
 Radnor, Robartes, Earl of, i. 61.  
 Rainsford, Sir Richard, i. 20.  
 Ranelagh, Lady, ii. 57.  
 Reresby, Sir John, on Lord Russell's motion on the state of the nation, i. 37.  
 Revolution, letter relating to the events of November, i. 261.  
 Rochester, John Wilmot, Earl of, i. 62.  
 ———, Laurence Hyde, Earl of, i. 40.  
 Roos, Lady de, her marriage, ii. 113.  
 Roye, Countess de, *note*, i. 177.  
 Rumsey, *note*, i. 175.  
 Russell, Lady, duties towards a chaplain, i. 144.  
 ——— Lady, death, ii. 223; extract from her will, 224; lines on her death, 223; fac-simile of her handwriting, ii. 72.  
 ———, Lady Diana, i. 7.  
 ———, Lady Margaret, i. 27.  
 ———, Lord Robert, ii. 163.  
 ———, William Lord, motion on the state of the nation, i. 37.  
 Rutland, Duchess of, death, ii. 192.  
 Ruvigny, M. de, i. 18.  
 ———, M., Lady Rachel's cousin, death of, i. 163, 172.  
 Ryswick, peace of, ii. 145.  
  
 Saarsfield, Patrick, Earl of Lucan, ii. 34.  
 Sandwich, Elizabeth Wilmot, Countess of, i. 9.

- Saville, Harry, i. 18.  
 Scarborough, Sir Charles, i. 55.  
 ———, Richard, Earl of, ii. 33.  
 Schomberg, Duke of, i. 177; ii. 32.  
 Selwood, Thomas, *note*, ii. 206.  
 Shaftesbury, Margaret Spenser, Countess of, i. 21.  
 Shepherd, Mr., i. 33.  
 Sherard, Mr., ii. 154.  
 Shrewsbury, Duke of, i. 55.  
 ———, Countess of, i. 6.  
 Sidney, Hon. Henry, i. 1.  
 Sloane, Sir Hans, ii. 185.  
 Southampton, Frances, Countess of, i. 25.  
 Southwell, Sir Robert, ii. 39.  
 Spencer, Hon. Robert, i. 10, 34.  
 Stamford, Henry, first Earl of, i. 16.  
 Storm of 1703, ii. 172.  
 Stukeley, Lady, i. 28.  
 Suffolk, Theophilus Howard, Earl of, i. 15.  
 Sunderland, Anne, Countess of, i. 40.  
 Talmash, General, *note*, i. 185.  
 Test and Penal Laws, repeal of, Fagel's and other pamphlets upon, i. 237.  
 Thornton, John, *note*, i. 174.  
 Thynne, Mr., murder of, i. 51, 59.  
 Tillotson, his scruples as to the see of Canterbury, ii. 16, 46, 52.  
 Tiviot, Viscount, *note*, i. 231.  
 Torrington, Arthur Herbert, Earl of, character of, *note*, i. 220; ii. 39, 41.  
 Totteridge, residence, temporary, of Lady Russell, i. 140.  
 Trelawney, Bishop of Exeter, ii. 187.  
 Turner, Bishop of Ely, character of, i. 166, 283; ii. 69.  
 Tyrconnel, Earl of, *note*, i. 178.  
 Vernon, Sir Henry, i. 18.  
 ———, Sir Thomas, death, i. 149.  
 Waldegrave, Lord, *note*, i. 178.  
 Walker, George, *note*, ii. 15.  
 Wharton, Earl of, i. 9.  
 Williamson, Sir Joseph, i. 41; *note*, ii. 145.  
 Winchester, Morley, Bishop of, death, *note*, i. 141, 142.  
 ———, Marchioness of, i. 47.  
 Wingate, Sir Francis, ii. 59.  
 Winton, Sir Francis, i. 20.  
 Wriothesley, Lady Elizabeth, i. 5.  
 York, Duke of (James II.), i. 6, 12.

THE END.



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CLASSIFIED INDEX.

<b>Agriculture and Rural Affairs.</b>		Pages
Baydon on Valuing Rents, etc.	6	6
Calrd's Letters on Agriculture	8	8
Cecil's Stud Farm	8	8
Loudon's Encyclopedia of Agriculture	17	17
" Self-Instruction for Farmers, etc.	17	17
" (Mrs.) Lady's Country Companion	17	17
Low's Elements of Agriculture	18	18
<b>Arts, Manufactures, and Architecture.</b>		
Addison's Knights Templars	5	5
Bourne's Catechism of the Steam Engine	7	7
" On the Screw Propeller	6	6
Brande's Dictionary of Science, etc.	7	7
Cressy's Encyclo. of Civil Engineering	8	8
Eastlake on Oil Painting	9	9
Gwilt's Encyclopedia of Architecture	11	11
Jameson's Sacred and Legendary Art	13	13
Loudon's Rural Architecture	14	14
Moseley's Engineering and Architecture	21	21
Steam Engine (The), by the Artisan Club	5	5
Tate on Strength of Materials	29	29
Ure's Dictionary of Arts, etc.	30	30
<b>Biography.</b>		
Baines's Life of Baines	6	6
Bunsen's Hippolytus	7	7
Foss's Judges of England	10	10
Freeman's Life of Kirby	10	10
Haydon's Autobiography, by Taylor	29	29
Holcroft's Memoirs	31	31
Holland's (Lord) Memoirs	12	12
Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia	16	16
Maunder's Biographical Treasury	20	20
Memoir of the Duke of Wellington	31	31
" Lord Peterborough	23	23
Russell's Memoirs of Moore	21	21
Southey's Life of Wesley	27	27
" Life and Correspondence	27	27
Stephen's Ecclesiastical Biography	23	23
Taylor's Loyola	29	29
" Wesley	29	29
Townsend's Twelve eminent Judges	30	30
Waterson's Autobiography and Essays	30	30
<b>Books of General Utility.</b>		
Acton's (Eliza) Cookery Book	5	5
Black's Treatise on Brewing	6	6
Cabinet Gazetteer (The)	7	7
" Lawyer (The)	8	8
Hins on Etiquette	12	12
Hudson's Executor's Guide	13	13
" On Making Wills	13	13
Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia	16	16
Loudon's Self Instruction	17	17
" (Mrs.) Amateur Gardener	17	17
Maunder's Treasury of Knowledge	20	20
" Scientific and Literary Treasury	20	20
" Treasury of History	20	20
" Biographical Treasury	20	20
" Natural History	20	20
" and the Stud	12	12
Pocket and the Stud	12	12
Pycroft's Course of English Reading	24	24
Ryce's Medical Guide	24	24
Rich's Companion to the Latin Dictionary	24	24
Riddle's Latin Dictionaries and Lexicon	24	24
Rogers's Vegetable Cultivator	25	25
Roger's English Thesaurus	25	25
Rowton's Debater	25	25
Short Whist	26	26
Stud (The) for Practical Purposes	12	12
Thomson's Interest Tables	30	30
Traveler's Library	31	31
Webster's Domestic Economy	32	32
Wilmot's Abridgment of Blackstone's Commentaries	32	32
<b>Botany and Gardening.</b>		
Conversations on Botany	8	8
Hooker's British Flora	13	13
" Guide to Kew Gardens	12	12
Lindley's Introduction to Botany	17	17
Loudon's Hortus Britannicus	18	18
" Encyclopedia of Trees & Shrubs	17	17
" Gardening	17	17
" Plants	18	18
" Self-Instruction for Gardeners	17	17
" (Mrs.) Amateur Gardener	17	17
Rivers's Rose Amateur's Guide	25	25
Rogers's Vegetable Cultivator	25	25
<b>Chronology.</b>		
Blair's Chronological Tables	6	6
Bunsen's Ancient Egypt	7	7
Haydn's Book of Dignities	13	13
Nicolas's Chronology of History	16	16
<b>Commerce and Mercantile Affairs.</b>		
Francis's Bank of England	10	10
" English Railway	10	10
" Stock Exchange	10	10
Lorimer's Letters to a Master Mariner	17	17
McCulloch's Dictionary of Commerce	19	19
Steel's Shipmaster's Assistant	28	28
Symons' Merchant Seaman's Law	28	28
Thomson's Tables of Interest	29	29

### Criticism, History, and Memoirs.

	Pages
Addison's Knights-Templars	6
Anthony's Footsteps to History	5
Balfour's Sketches of Literature	6
Belfast's English Poets	6
Blair's Chron. and Historical Tables	6
Burton's History of Scotland	7
Bunsen's Ancient Egypt	7
Hippolytus	7
Corybeare and Howson's St. Paul	8
Dennistoun's Dukes of Urbino	9
Eastlake's History of Oil Painting	9
Felice's French Protestants	10
Foss's Judges of England	10
Francis's Bank of England	10
English Railway	10
Stock Exchange	10
Gleig's Lepaic Campaign	31
Gurney's Historical Sketches	11
Hamilton's Essays from the Edinburgh Review	11
Haydon's Autobiography, by Taylor	29
Harrison on the English Language	11
Holland's (Lord) Foreign Reminiscences	12
Whig Party	12
Jeffrey's (Lord) Contributions	14
Kemble's Anglo-Saxons in England	15
Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopaedia	16
Macaulay's	18
History of England	18
Mackintosh's Miscellaneous Works	18
M'Culloch's Dictionary, Historical, Geographical, and Statistical	19
Maunder's Treasury of History	20
Mariotti's Fra Dolcino	19
Martineau's Church History	30
Memoir of the Duke of Wellington	31
Merivale's Roman Republic	20
History of Rome	20
Meer's (Thomas) Memoirs, etc.	21
Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History	22
Mure's Greek Literature	22
Ranke's Ferdinand and Maximilian	31
Rich's Companion to the Latin Dictionary	24
Riddle's Latin Dictionaries	24
Rogers's Essays from the Edinburgh Rev.	25
Roget's English Thesaurus	25
St. John's Indian Archipelago	25
Schmitt's History of Greece	29
Sinclair's Polish Legends	26
Smith's (S.) Lectures on Moral Philosophy	27
Southey's The Doctor etc.	27
Stephen's Ecclesiastical Biography	28
Lectures on the History of France	28
Sydney Smith's Works	27
Taylor's Loyola	29
Wesley	29
Thirlwall's History of Greece	29
Townsend's State Trials	30
Turner's England during the Middle Ages	30
Anglo-Saxons	30
Sacred History of the World	30
Zumpt's Latin Grammar	32

### Geography and Atlases.

Butler's Ancient and Modern Geography	7
Atlas of General Geography	7
abinet Gazetteer (The)	7

	Pages
Hall's Large Library Atlas	13
Hughes (G.) New School Physical Atlas	31
" (W.) Australian Colonies	13
Mathematical Geography	11
" General Gazetteer	14
M'Culloch's Geographical Dictionary	19
M'Leod and Weller's Scripture Atlas	18
Murray's Encyclopedia of Geography	21
Sharp's British Gazetteer	26

### Juvenile Books.

Amy Herbert	25
Anthony's Footsteps to History	5
Calling and Responsibilities of a Governess	5
Corner's Children's Sunday Book	8
Earl's Daughter (The)	26
Experience of Life (The)	26
Gertrude	26
Graham's Studies from the English Poets	11
Howitt's Boy's Country Book	13
Children's Year	13
Laneton Parsonage	26
Mrs. Marcott's Conversations	19
Margaret Festival	26
Fycroft's Course of English Reading	24

### Medicine.

Ansell on Tuberculosis	5
Bull's Hints to Mothers	7
Management of Children	7
Copland's Dictionary of Medicine	8
Holland's Mental Physiology	12
Latham on Diseases of the Heart	15
Moore on Health, Disease, and Remedy	21
Pereira on Food and Diet	23
Reece's Medical Guide	24
Thomas's Practice on Physic	20

### Miscellaneous and General Literature.

Calling, etc. (The) of a Governess	8
Canille's Lectures and Addresses	31
Eclipse of Faith (The)	9
Graham's English	11
Greg's Essays on Political and Social Science	11
Harpa's Beatson's Index	12
Holland's Medical Physiology	12
Hooker's Kew Guide	12
Howitt's Rural Life of England	13
Visits to Remarkable Places	13
Jeffrey's (Lord) Contributions	14
Lang on Freedom for the Colonies	15
Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopaedia	16
Loudon's (Mrs.) Lady's Country Companion	17
Macaulay's Critical and Historical Essays	18
Mackintosh's (Sir J.) Miscellaneous Works	18
Maitland's Church in the Catacombs	19
Memoirs of a Maître d'Armes	21
Pascal's Works, by Pearce	23
Pycroft's Course of English Reading	24
Rich's Companion to the Latin Dictionary	24
Riddle's Latin Dictionaries and Lexicons	24
Rowston's Debater	25
Seaward's Narrative of his Shipwreck	26
Sir Roger De Coverley	26
Sketches by a Sailor	26
Sir Roger De Coverley	27
Southey's Common-Place Books	27
The Doctor etc.	27

	Pages
Stow's Training System - - -	28
Sydney Smith's Works - - -	27
Townsend's State Trials - - -	20
Willoughby's (Lady) Diary - - -	32
Zumpt's Latin Grammar - - -	32

**Natural History in General.**

Catlow's Popular Conchology - - -	8
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Ephemera and Young on the Salmon - - -	10
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Kemp's Natural History of Creation - - -	21
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Louden's, of Trees and Shrubs - - -	17
"    of Gardening - - -	17
"    of Agriculture - - -	17
"    of Plants - - -	18
"    of Rural Architecture - - -	18
M'Culloch's Geographical Dictionary - - -	19
"    Dictionary of Commerce - - -	19
Murray's Encyclopedias of Geography - - -	22
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Shakespeare, by Bowdler - - -	25
"    's Sentiments and Similes - - -	14
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Hook's (Dr.) Lectures on Passion Week - - -	12
Horne's Introduction to the Scriptures - - -	13
"    Compendium of ditto - - -	13
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"    Monastic Legends - - -	14
"    Legends of the Madonna - - -	14
Jeremy Taylor's Works - - -	14
Kippis's Hymns - - -	15
Lancelot Partridge - - -	26
Letters to my Unknown Friends - - -	17
"    on Happiness - - -	17
Marsden's Church in the Catacombs - - -	19
Margaret Perceval - - -	28
M'Leod and Weller's Scripture Atlas - - -	15
Mariotti's Fra Dolcino - - -	19
Marston's Church History - - -	20
Milner's Church of Christ - - -	20
Montgomery's Original Hymns - - -	20
Moore on the Power of the Soul - - -	21
"    on the Use of the Body - - -	21
"    on Man and his Motives - - -	21
Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History - - -	22
Neale's Risen from the Rank - - -	22
"    Closing Scene - - -	23
"    Resting Places of the Just - - -	22
"    Riches that bring no Sorrow - - -	22
Newman's (J. H.) Discourses - - -	22
Pascal's Works, by Pearce - - -	23
Ranke's Ferdinand and Maximilian - - -	81
Readings for Lent - - -	14
Robinson's Lexicon of the Greek Testament - - -	25
Saints our Example (The) - - -	25

	Pages		Pages
Self De al the Preparation for Easter	25	Portlock's Geology of Londonderry	24
Sketches' y s Sailor	26	Simce's Electro-Metallurgy	27
Steucliar's Journey of Life	26	Steam Engine (The), by the Artisan Club	5
Poplah Legends	26	Tate on Strength of Materials	28
Smith's (J.) St. Paul's Shipwreck	27	" Exercises on Mechanics	27
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Southey's Life of Wesley	27	Wood's Algebra, by Lund	32
Stephen's (Sir J.) Ecclesiastical Biography	28		
Taylor's (Rev. C. B.) Margaret	29		
"    "    Lady Mary	29		
Taylor's (J.) Thumb Bible	29		
"    "    (Isaac) Loyola	29		
"    "    Wesley	29		
Tomlin's Introduction to the Bible	30		
Turner's Sacred History	30		
Willoughby's (Lady) Diary	32		
<b>Rural Sports.</b>			
Blaine's Dictionary of Rural Sports	6		
Cecil's Stable Practice	8		
"    Stud Farm	8		
The Crickets Field	9		
Ephemera on Angling	10		
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Practical Horsemanship	11		
Pulman's Fly-Fishing	24		
Stable Talk and Table Talk	12		
The Stud, for Practical Men	12		
Wheatley's Rod and Line	32		
<b>The Sciences in General and Mathematics.</b>			
Bourne's Catechism of the Steam Engine	7		
"    "    on the Screw Propeller	6		
Brande's Dictionary of Science, etc.	7		
De la Beche on the Geology of Cornwall, etc.	9		
"    "    's Geological Observer	9		
De la Rive's Electricity	9		
Herschel's Outlines of Astronomy	12		
Humboldt's Aspects of Nature	14		
"    "    Cosmos	14		
Holland's Mental Physiology	12		
Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia	18		
"    "    Great Exhibition	15		
Lund's Companion to Wood's Algebra	32		
Marret's Conversations	19		
Moseley's Practical Mechanics	22		
"    "    Engineering and Architecture	22		
Owen's Comparative Anatomy	23		
Peschel's Physics	23		
Phillips's Mineralogy	23		
"    "    Palæozoic Fossils of Cornwall, etc.	24		
<b>Veterinary Medicine.</b>			
Cecil's Stable Practice	8		
"    "    Stud Farm	8		
The Hunting Field	11		
The Pocket and the Stud	12		
Practical Horsemanship	11		
Stable Talk and Table Talk	12		
The Stud for Practical Purposes	11		
Yonatt's The Dog	32		
"    "    The Horse	32		
<b>Voyages and Travels.</b>			
Adams's Canterbury Settlement	5		
Davis's China	9		
Eöthen	31		
Forbes's Dahomey	10		
Forester and Biddulph's Norway	10		
Hope's Brittany and the Bible	31		
Hughes's Australian Colonies	31		
Huc's Tartary, Thibet, and China	31		
Humboldt's Aspects of Nature	14		
Jameson's Canada	31		
Jermann's Pictures from St. Petersburg	31		
Lang's New South Wales	15		
Laing's Denmark	15		
"    "    Norway	31		
"    "    Notes of a Traveller	15		
Lardner's London, etc.	15		
Osborn's Arctic Journal	23		
Peel's Nubian Desert	23		
Pfeiffer's Voyage round the World	31		
Powell's New Zealand Sketches	24		
Richardson's Arctic Boat Voyage	24		
Seaward's Narrative of his Shipwreck	25		
Snow's Arctic Voyage	27		
St. John's (H.) Indian Archipelago	25		
"    "    (J. A.) Isis	28		
Sutherland's Arctic Voyage	25		
Traveller's Library	31		
Werne's African Wanderings	31		
<b>Works of Fiction.</b>			
Lady Willoughby's Diary	23		
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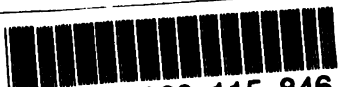
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